

HUNS MASSING TROOPS FOR DESPERATE DRIVE AGAINST WEST FRONT

Heavy German Reinforcements Have Arrived in France, Is Belief in Allied Capitals; Where Blow May Fall Has Not Been Disclosed; Activity Against American Sector Probable; Cambrai Bombardment Heavy; Increased Enemy Effort May Be Intended to Draw Allied Attention From Massing of Troops

London, Monday, Dec. 10.—The correspondent at Amsterdam of the Daily Express reports the Germans are rushing troops to the western front with the idea of smashing the entente allies before America is able to act.

Heavy German reinforcements have arrived in France, it is believed in allied capitals, but where the expected blow will fall is yet to be disclosed. For the moment the infantry is inactive along the western front but the artillery, and especially that of the Germans, is very active in various sectors.

On the British front the Germans are bombarding heavily the positions southwest of Cambrai and east and northeast of Ypres, the two sectors which have seen virtually all the heavy fighting in the past few months. From St. Quentin to the Swiss border, Paris reports great enemy artillery activity between the Oise and the Aisne, in Champagne, northeast of Verdun and in upper Alsace. The British and French cannon are replying in kind against the German positions.

The heavy German artillery fire may mean that the Germans are attempting to find a weak point and it may be only for the purpose of drawing allied attention to one spot while the troops from the Russian front are massed for a strong effort of a hitherto quiet sector. Strong local German attacks on the right bank of the Meuse northeast of Verdun, have been repulsed by the French who took prisoners.

KAISER'S GUNS PREPARING WAY FOR BIG BATTLE

Heavy Artillery Batters Steadily on Allied Line in France

London, Dec. 11.—Unusually active artillery fighting and aerial operations on the western front yesterday are reported in to-day's official communication. The activity was particularly noteworthy on the Ypres and Arras fronts.

Operations of the nature and extent indicated by the official British communication almost everywhere preceded a great attack. The preliminary bombardment, designed to break down the enemy defenses and clear the way for the infantry advance, may continue for a week or more, while at the same time efforts are made to clear the air of opposing aviators to control the bringing up of troops and other preparations for the attack. Yesterday's French and British statements also spoke of heavy artillery fighting at many points.

Recent reports that the Germans, reinforced by troops withdrawn from the Russian front, were about to undertake in the west the greatest offensive campaign of the war derived added significance from Secretary Baker's reference yesterday in his weekly war review to the massing of German troops on the western front and the expected attempt of the enemy to break the allied line.

ONLY 2 DAYS left for men between the ages of 21 and 31 years to enlist in the war against the Hun. After the time all registered men must take their chances in being placed in whatever branch of the service the government decides.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair, continued cold to-night, lowest temperature about 8 degrees; Wednesday increasing cloudiness, with slowly rising temperature. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair, continued cold to-night; Wednesday increasing cloudiness and not quite so cold; light, variable winds.

The Susquehanna river and all its tributaries will remain generally icebound and nearly stationary. A stage of about 3.5 feet, ice reading, is indicated for Harrisburg Wednesday morning.

General Conditions The great high pressure area from the Northwest now covers nearly all the country east of the Rocky Mountains and under its influence fair weather has prevailed generally, except in Northern New England, Western Minnesota, Nebraska and Colorado, where light snow fell, and in Texas and Western Louisiana, where rain has set in. An area of high pressure from the Pacific ocean is moving in over the plateau region, and a new depression has appeared in the Far Northwest.

Temperatures continue below the seasonal average over nearly all the country, with freezing temperatures and killing frosts as far south as Jacksonville, and heavy frosts over the Florida peninsula as far south as Tampa.

Temperatures: 8 a. m., 6. Sun: Rise, 7:21 a. m.; sets, 4:28 p. m. Moon: New moon, December 14. River Stage: 3.5 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 19. Lowest temperature, zero. Mean temperature, 16. Normal temperature, 34.

Mrs. Belmont Urges Soldiers to be Cheerful

With the American Army in France, Monday, Dec. 10. (By the Associated Press)—Mrs. August Belmont, of New York, won the applause of several hundred soldiers who crowded the Y. M. C. A. building in the American C. A. headquarters town to hear her relate her experiences while visiting the soldiers near the British and French fronts. She appeared in the town to cheer the American fighting spirit throughout the war. She was given a rousing cheer when she quoted this line from a play in which she appeared when she was Eleanor Robson: "If things are not cheerful, folks must be."

Teutons May Launch Drive Within Week Against U. S. Lines

Washington, Dec. 11.—The War Department expects the American sector in France to be attacked soon by the Germans, perhaps within a week. The attack, when it comes, will be delivered in the favorite massed formation, wave of infantry following wave. The purpose is a double one:— To break the morale of the American troops. To test out the strength of the American position and material.

Penn-Harris Brings Big Convention to the City

The Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce announced to-day that they had booked the first large convention booked for Harrisburg as a result of the Penn-Harris hotel being erected. Through the efforts of the commerce chamber, the 1918 convention of the Sunday schools and the Christian Endeavor societies of the United States will be held in Harrisburg September 25 to 29, 1918.

General War Inquiry Will Be Ordered

Washington, Dec. 11.—A general inquiry into the operations of the War Department in arming and equipping the American forces was decided upon to-day by the Senate Military Affairs Committee. Secretary Baker and other department heads will be called to explain various features of war activities.

TEUTONS AGAIN FAIL TO BREAK ITALIAN LINES

Infantry Fighting Has Been Checked From Asiago to the Piave River

Washington, Dec. 11.—Rome dispatches confirming earlier reports of a lull after the fierce fighting in which the Teutons failed to break through the Italian lines, say the Austro-German commander sacrificed hundreds of thousands of his best men without improving his position. This description of the situation is given: "The fierce fighting of the last few days has subsided into a period of comparative calm. The superhuman resistance of the Italian soldiers prevented the Austro-Germans from attaining the strategical advantages of their objective, although they succeeded in obtaining gains of purely tactical character. The failure of the enemy attacks is indicated by the inactivity on the entire front for three consecutive days. The invaders have desisted from attacking the positions in direction of the Brenta canal on account of the complete exhaustion of the forces engaged."

Crop Production Is Greatest in History

Washington, Dec. 11.—Many crops this year exceed the production of other years, while the value of the country's farm products, with a total estimated unofficially at \$21,000,000, far exceeds any other year in history. Final estimates of production of the principal farm crops were announced to-day by the Department of Agriculture. The production estimates are: Corn, 3,159,494,000 bushels. Winter wheat, 418,070,000. Spring wheat, 232,758,000. All wheat, 650,832,000. Oats, 1,587,286,000. Barley, 208,975,000. Rye, 60,145,000. Buckwheat, 17,460,000.

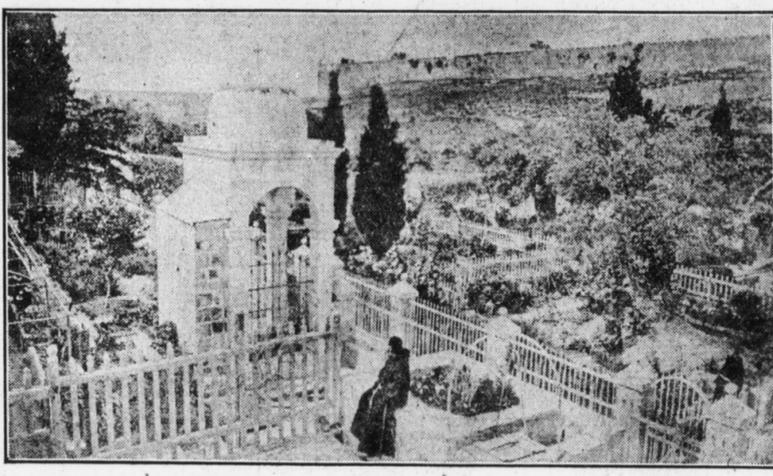
America Ready to Pay Debt to Civilization

Rome, Monday, Dec. 10.—Two hundred thousand persons took part in a demonstration to-day before the American embassy. Among the speakers was Congressman Fiorello La Guardia, of New York, wearing his uniform as captain of the American flying corps. Captain La Guardia said Italy had given to America several generations of workmen who had helped to build up the prosperity of the United States. That country was now returning the debt contracted and was ready to shed blood for the triumph of the cause of the allies, which was the cause of civilization.

Big Winter Show to Be Held in City

The State Department of Agriculture to-day announced that a mid-winter exhibition of corn, wool, dairy products, potatoes, poultry and products, apples and vegetables would be held in Harrisburg, January 22 to 24, under joint auspices of the state and the various agricultural, horticultural, breeder, vegetable growers and other organizations as a stimulus to food production next year. The first mid-winter show was held here last year, but the exhibition plans are far much more extensive affair with \$1,000 in prizes. It was also announced that the State Board of Agriculture would hold its annual session here during the show and that arrangements had been made for meetings during the same week in this city of ten organizations interested in agriculture and allied branches.

THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE



13 ARE HANGED FOR COMPLICITY IN HOUSTON RIOT

Announcement Made at Southern Department Headquarters; Some Go to Prison

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 11.—Thirteen negroes were hanged at Fort Sam Houston this morning for complicity in the riot at Houston, on August 23. The men who paid the penalty of death were: Sergeant William C. Nesbitt. Corporals—Larson J. Brown, Jas. Whentley, Jesse Moore, Charles W. Baltimore. Privates—William Brackenridge, Thomas C. Hawkins, Carlos Snodgrass, James Divine, Frank Johnson, Holey W. Young and Pat MacWhorter.

Twelve Yanks to Get Xmas Boxes Through Generosity of Harrisburg Women

The ready wit of some Harrisburg women who were touched by a letter from Lieutenant Ross Boas, in France, depicting the forlorn condition of a dozen American boys in the First Engineer Corps will result in a most gorgeous Christmas surprise if Hun U-boats do not interfere. Lieutenant Boas wrote to his mother at her home, 115 State street, some time ago, giving very conservative news, as the custom is, but elaborating on the fact that twelve of his comrades, privates and all fine American men, were absolutely without any friends or relatives who would remember them at Christmas time. He said the fact was serious but true, and that in the laborious and unpleasant work in the laborious and unpleasant work they were compelled to do, a bit of Christmas would surely be appreciated.

Cold Weather to Continue For Several Days, When Snow or Rain Is Forecast

Harrisburg continues to shiver during one of the coldest waves that has ever gripped the city during the winter. The thermometer in the city is in the temperature is forecast, but for at least one or two days the weather will remain cold. The low temperature last night was seven degrees. The weather will remain the same for at least to-morrow. Weather Forecast: A gradual increase in temperature reported in December will be a gradual moderation of the cold weather, followed by snow or rain. The weather of the last three days has been extremely severe for this time of the year. The lowest temperature reported in December is a degree above zero, December 27, 1914. In several sections of the city last night the electric current furnished by the Harrisburg Light and Power Company failed to respond when the switches were turned on, and as a result many sections of the city, and the street lights, were out of service. At the powerhouse it was said a machine was out of order. The trouble was repaired last night. The coal situation continues the same. Dealers say that the rush for coal both in large and small quantities is the heaviest in years. Where some dealers are supplied with a few grades of coal, they say that the labor shortage is such that they cannot possibly meet the demand for immediate deliveries. In some cases customers are taking home small quantities of coal to see them through the few days of extreme cold weather. Dealers say that if this continues they will advocate the application of the "carry home your purchases" idea to the coal business.

REPORT AMENDMENT TO BE PRESENTED MONDAY

Washington, Dec. 11.—The constitutional amendment for nationwide woman suffrage was reported without recommendation to-day by the House Judiciary Committee.

Scene Near Holy City Taken From the Infidels

The scene of Christ's agony on the Mount of Olives, on the east slope of the Kedron Valley, near Jerusalem. Here was a garden or orchard which was a favorite resort of Christ and His disciples. Tradition located the spot, and a high wall was built around it by Franciscan Monks in 1547 near the points mentioned in the dispatches of the British war office.

OFFICIAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM IS MADE TODAY

No Attempt to Define Future Position of City Until Peace Comes

London, Dec. 11.—No attempt will be made to define the future position of Jerusalem until a general peace comes, the Times says. In the meantime the city will be treated as in British military occupation and will be under martial law. General Allenby will appoint a military governor. While the British flag will fly over the city, the French and Italian flags will be placed over their national property, such as convents and schools. A solemn thanksgiving and Te Deum will be held in St. Paul's Cathedral to-day in celebration of the surrender. Official entry into Jerusalem, the Holy City of the Christians, is planned for to-day. Allied troops entered the capital of Palestine after it was surrounded and the Turks [Continued on Page 12.]

Speakers in Movies to Aid Red Cross in Membership Campaign

The Public Safety Committee of Dauphin county has arranged to have speakers appear in the picture theaters of the city to-morrow, Thursday and Friday to aid the Red Cross in its membership campaign. Members of the bar and seniors of the Technical High school have volunteered their services. The speakers will give a brief outline of the purposes and objectives of the Red Cross and the result has been increased subscriptions. Grand Army veterans will lead the grand march at the big military ball to be given in Wintdale Hall to-morrow evening by the Veterans of Foreign Wars for the benefit of the Soldiers' Smokes fund. Every military organization in the city will be represented in the grand march, the Sons of Veterans, the Spanish War Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars will follow the Grand Army in the order named. Representatives of the United States Army at the aviation station below Harrisburg will also be present. Members of any of the local military organizations attending will be asked to wear their uniforms. The public is invited to the ball. Good orchestral programs have been arranged and the ball will be decorated in the national colors.

Winter Drills Start For the City Reserves

Captains of the companies of the Harrisburg Reserves have called to attention of members that the winter drills in which the manual of arms and interior guard duty will be taken up have started at the city Grays' Armory. The drill nights will be as heretofore in January rifle practice will be taken up. To-night Captain Ross A. Hickok will go to Steelton to assist in organizing the defense organization in that place. The Harrisburg Reserves plan of organization has been adopted at Hummelstown and in a dozen or more towns in the state. Prohibition Amendment to Be Presented Monday

Washington, Dec. 11.—By unanimous consent to-day the Senate agreed to consider on Monday the constitutional amendment for nationwide prohibition which already has been passed by the Senate. The judiciary committee to-day favorably reported the amendment.

COUNCIL LOSES VALUABLE TIME OVER GARBAGE

City May See Repetition of Last Year's Muddling in Collections

With the present contract for collection of ashes and garbage ending at the close of next month, residents all over the city are predicting that unless City Council acts soon the city will face a repetition of conditions of last winter when ashes and refuse piled up in every backyard in the city. As the Commissioners intend to have municipal collection of ashes this part of the collection work is the one which is concerning the citizens more than the garbage problem. A number of them, in discussing the situation, said they doubted if the city would be able to equip itself to take care of the garbage problem unless action is taken at once. While there have been a number of changes in department heads because of deaths and appointments expiring, a number of persons are beginning to question the advisability of any further delay in providing for the collection work. No recommendation [Continued on Page 12.]

Military Ball Will Be Picturesque Event; Funds to Buy Smokes

Grand Army veterans will lead the grand march at the big military ball to be given in Wintdale Hall to-morrow evening by the Veterans of Foreign Wars for the benefit of the Soldiers' Smokes fund. Every military organization in the city will be represented in the grand march, the Sons of Veterans, the Spanish War Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars will follow the Grand Army in the order named. Representatives of the United States Army at the aviation station below Harrisburg will also be present. Members of any of the local military organizations attending will be asked to wear their uniforms. The public is invited to the ball. Good orchestral programs have been arranged and the ball will be decorated in the national colors.

Winter Drills Start For the City Reserves

Captains of the companies of the Harrisburg Reserves have called to attention of members that the winter drills in which the manual of arms and interior guard duty will be taken up have started at the city Grays' Armory. The drill nights will be as heretofore in January rifle practice will be taken up. To-night Captain Ross A. Hickok will go to Steelton to assist in organizing the defense organization in that place. The Harrisburg Reserves plan of organization has been adopted at Hummelstown and in a dozen or more towns in the state. Prohibition Amendment to Be Presented Monday

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Charles A. Gable, Enola, and Margaret E. Platt, Marysville; Charles R. Hoffman and Lula R. Ingram, Harrisburg.

WHOLE CITY TO GET BEHIND U. S. WAR PROGRAM

Seventeen Hundred Workers to Take Part in Red Cross Drive

MEN NOT MONEY WANTED

WHAT IS THE RED CROSS? President Wilson heads it. Congress authorizes it. The War Department audits its accounts. Pershing in France approves it. It is working for YOUR Army. It is working for YOUR Navy. It is working for YOUR allies. It is working for YOU. Fall in!

While the general idea throughout the country is that the Red Cross campaign for 10,000,000 additional memberships will open December 17 and close Christmas eve, the idea in Harrisburg is that while it will open next Monday it will close next Wednesday.

Harrisburg, to an extent greater than in any city in the United States has perfected the campaign idea. The city has a volunteer organization which is almost perfect. It has learned that there is nothing to be gained in "dragging" a campaign. So that the campaign which starts [Continued on Page 11.]

Beefless Days This Winter; Iceless Days Next Summer

Reading, Pa., Dec. 11.—Forty ice manufacturers of Eastern Pennsylvania met here to-day at the suggestion of the Federal Reserve Bank and made arrangements for closer co-operation and to conserve the ammonia supply. It was stated that there will be iceless days next summer the same as beefless days which have already been inaugurated.

ITALIANS REPULSE GERMANS

Rome, Dec. 11.—Powerful attempts made by the Austro-Germans to retake Agenzia and Zuliani positions in the Capo Sile region of the lower Piave river, were sanguinarily repulsed yesterday by the Italians, it was announced to-day by the war office.

COTTON CROP IS REDUCED

Washington, Dec. 11.—Reduction of more than a million bales in the cotton crop of the country from the last estimate made was shown in the final estimate of production issued to-day by the Department of Agriculture.

UNABLE TO LOCATE STEAMER MUNDALE

New York, Dec. 10.—Officials of the Munson Steamship Line here were still without advices to-day regarding the whereabouts of its steamer Mundale. The vessel, carrying 37 men, was reported last night as having sent out wireless calls for aid from a position about 50 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras. An oil steamer which caught these messages reported it could find no trace of Mundale upon arriving at the position indicated.

PANAMA DECLARES WAR ON AUSTRIA

Panama, Dec. 11.—Panama declared war on Austria yesterday. The government in co-operation with the canal zone authorities, is interning all Austrians. The zone has now been cleared of Germans and Austrians, in accordance with President Wilson's recent order.

FORMER FIRE CHIEF DIES

Harrisburg—Thomas W. Reed, 75, chief of the city fire department in 1883, is dead at his home, 2041 Herr street. He was widely known in firemen's circles for half a century. Mr. Reed for many years was foreman in the old Harrisburg Car Works.

SETTLE PROPOSED B. & O. STRIKE

Washington, Dec. 11.—Difficulties which threatened a strike of 2,300 telegraphers employed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and a tieup of traffic on one of the country's most important roads, were settled to-day by the Federal Board of Mediation and Conciliation under the direction of Commissioner G. W. L. Hanger.

HALIFAX RELIEF WORK DELAYED BY SNOWSTORM

All Activities Now on Systematic Basis; All Canada Takes Part

BAR CURIOSITY SEEKERS

Fear of New Disasters Banned; Last Night a Restful One

By Associated Press Halifax, N. S., Dec. 11.—The snowstorm which hampered the relief workers yesterday was of short duration and last night was clear and cold. As the snow which fell was near enough to rain to be well saturated, a hard crust had formed to-day, further interfering with traffic. Along with the work of clearing away the ruins of wrecked buildings. All activities, however, are now on a systematic basis and Halifax men joined to-day with men from other parts of Canada and from cities in the United States in making further progress toward bringing back more normal conditions. The refusal to [Continued on Page 6.]

Sweetens Coffee With Peppermint; Saves Sugar

Washington, Dec. 11.—Stir your coffee with a stick of peppermint candy and let the scarcity of sugar go hang. This is the advice of H. H. Hartman, traffic policeman at F. and Fourteenth streets northwest. He says it has sugar "skinned" forty city blocks anyway. Hartman said when sugar got scarce he experimented with sweetening his coffee with candy made from sugar. He found peppermint candy not only furnished the desired sweetening, but added a delightful flavor of mint.