

FREE CHRISTMAS FEAST FOR NEEDY BISMARCK KIDS

Van Horn Hotel Cafe To Play Host to the Poor Children of City Between 1:30 and 3 p. m.

DON'T FORGET EMPTY STOCKING CLUB NEEDS

Suggested That Capital City Radiate Yuletide Cheer by Pulling Up Blinds

800'S SANTA CLAUS (United Press)

St. Paul, Dec. 20.—The Soo line advanced Santa Claus a few days today, when they paid all employees in the general office here substantial bonus checks. Other Soo line employees through the northwest may be similarly treated this week.

Newsies, orphans and children of the poor are going to "spruce up" just a little bit more than the usual when they become the guests of Bougas Brothers, proprietors of the Van Horn cafe Christmas day between the hours of 1:30 and 3 o'clock. No formal "invites" are being sent thru the mails, nor will Tommy and Mary have to answer any "R. S. V. P.'s." The "invitations" are "popular," according to the proprietors and include all the poor children.

A Glorious Feast for Kids. It's going to be a glorious feast for the kids. In one of the city's most fashionable cafes they are going to dine on turkey, cranberry sauce, baked sweet potatoes, pudding, pie and smack their ice cream spoons. At each table will be a special waiter to cater to the wants of the kids. Yep, Tommy and Mary are going to dine in real fashion.

"It's a wonderful Christmas thought," declared Captain James Murphy of the Bismarck Salvation army this morning when he heard of the idea. "Nothing could impress me more at this Yule-tide than to hear of such a generous response from Bougas Brothers. It seems to me that the poor in the Capital City are going to be cared for better this season than any preceding Christmas, all due to the big open hearts of the Bismarck people."

"But there is need for more contributions to the Empty Stocking club. While responses have been good, it is hoped during the next two or three days enough will be secured to assure a merry Christmas for each of the 150 needy children of Bismarck."

All contributions should be sent directly to Captain Murphy or dropped in one of the kettles on the street.

Why Not Up With the Curtains? Up with the curtains Christmas eve and Christmas night in Bismarck. Let the city be a blaze of light. Business men, ministers and others—all prominent in the growth and the prosperity of the city—were unanimous yesterday in voicing their opinions that in every residence the blinds should be raised with the lighting of the Christmas trees in order that the good cheer within might be spread to the "little world" of Bismarck outside.

"That's as it should be," declared Dr. W. J. Hutchison, pastor of the Methodist church, when questioned as to his opinion this afternoon. "I am heartily in favor of it." Others who were broached on the idea gave statements of a similar tone.

Mrs. Dunn Favors the Movement. "I heartily endorse the movement to have all the curtains in the Bismarck homes raised on Christmas night and Christmas eve," said Mrs. J. P. Dunn, president of the Civic league when asked yesterday. The league president also had another idea in mind. She hoped the time would come when residents of Bismarck would revive that old custom of keeping an open house on New Year's day.

Spirit of Christmas Arrives. The spirit of Christmas arrived in Bismarck last week with a four-inch fall of snow, assuring a white Christmas. Stores are now open until late in the evening and have experienced throngs of shoppers during the evening. Officers of the Salvation army brave the subzero temperatures and stand on the principal corners of the streets, guardians over their kettles, while bells are rung for contributions for baskets for the poor on Christmas day. A splendid start was made with the army kettles on Saturday when the sum of \$27.19 was raised for the day. However, the cold snap of Monday had a detrimental effect on the "warming up" process, Monday's income amounting to only \$8.46.

The army workers on the investigations are going at their business thoroly and by tomorrow evening the captain reports, he expects to have a list of his actual requirements for Christmas relief. The baskets and stockings will be delivered by Santa Claus Saturday afternoon. But until then the word of the Salvation army officers to the pedestrians will be to "keep the kettles boiling."

AMERICANS ALLOWED TO LEAVE SYRIA

Washington, Dec. 20.—The 1000 Americans detained in Syria and Palestine by the Turkish military authorities have been granted permission to leave via Beirut for a month to make valuable any military information they may have.

Low Record Temperature For Month

Official Reading at 8 O'Clock This Morning Was 42 Degrees Below Zero

WIRE SERVICE THROUGHOUT NORTHWEST IS CRIPPLED

Whistle To Sound Two Long Shrill Blasts Mornings of Extreme Cold

ST. PAUL SUFFERS. (By United Press.)

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 20.—The coldest December weather in 15 years was recorded today, when thermometers dropped to 23 degrees below zero. The cold was accompanied by a 37-mile an hour wind.

HOURLY READINGS.	
Midnight	.....-35
1 A. M.	.....-37
2 A. M.	.....-34
3 A. M.	.....-36
4 A. M.	.....-37
5 A. M.	.....-38
6 A. M.	.....-39
7 A. M.	.....-40
8 A. M.	.....-42
9 A. M.	.....-35
10 A. M.	.....-30
11 A. M.	.....-25
12 A. M.	.....-25

A low temperature record for the Bismarck weather bureau station for the month of December was made this morning at 8:30 o'clock when a minimum of 42 degrees below zero was reached. The nearest approach to this mark was -38 degrees on December 24, 1879-86 years ago. On but two other occasions since the station was established in 1874 has a temperature of more than 30 degrees below occurred, December 26, 1886 with -34, and December 25, 1884, with -35.

Close to State's Cold Record. With but one exception, according to Oris W. Roberts, meteorologist, in charge of the government station here, today's registration is the lowest temperature recorded in the state, 43 degrees below having been recorded at Dunseith, Rolette county on December 13, 1901, and at Medora, Billings county, on December 26, 1904.

Observations taken by the United States Weather Bureau.

(Continued on page 4)

PURCHASE PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE OF EMBEZZLEMENT

Springs Sensation at Opening of Morning Session of District Court

With three-fourths of the chairs in the jury box filled, Attorney George H. Pugh, of Halliday, facing trial in the district court for embezzlement charge, sprang a sensation at the opening of the session this morning by pleading guilty through his counsel.

Sentence will be passed by Judge Nusselle on January 16. Bail bonds were fixed at \$2,000.

Amount Mentioned \$2,025.28

The prosecution alleged that Purchase as attorney for Charles Jentzen, administrator of the estate of the late Andrew Lipter of Dunn county did "by virtue of said employment receive and take into his possession a certain check for \$2,025.08 and appropriated it to his own use." About 12 witnesses had been subpoenaed by the prosecution, the case being called late yesterday afternoon.

For Charge Omitted. The forgery charge growing out of the same transaction was dismissed when the plea of guilty was entered shortly after 9:30 o'clock. Purchase agreed to return all the funds misappropriated.

Sentence for an offense of this nature is said to be from one to five years and will probably result in his being disbarred from practicing law in North Dakota.

Array of Legal Lights. An array of legal talent was present when the case was called. Thomas G. Johnson, of Killdeer, state's attorney for Dunn county, headed the prosecution. Assisting him were H. J. Linde, attorney general; T. D. Casey of Dickinson, special counsel representing the estate, and City Attorney McCurdy of Bismarck, who was procured to aid in the selection of the jury.

Counsel for the defense were T. E. Murtha of Dickinson, Miller, Zuger and Tillotson of Bismarck and Attorney Stark of Dickinson. Mr. Purchase once practiced law at Jamestown, Bismarck, Beach and Richardson. Before coming to this state he served with the police force at Superior, Wis. He was a witness in the famous impeachment trial several years ago of the mayor of Superior.

MARKET STEADY. (By United Press.)

London, Dec. 20.—The British Stock Exchange opened steady again Tuesday on the strength of Lord George's address. The general trend of the market is steady.

WAR MOVES AT LOW EBB ON ALL FRONTS

Developments in Peace Movement Await Presentation of Formal Reply

BALKAN DRIVE SEEMS ALMOST AT END

Unfavorable Weather Makes Military Operations Exceedingly Difficult

BRITISH HOLD MAIL. (United Press.)

Berlin, Dec. 20. From December, 1915, to December, 1916, British and French war vessels seized 24,500 mail bags bound for Germany and 15,800 mail bags bound for Austria, the press bureau stated today. It is estimated that of these 11,000 bags were bound to the United States and 13,000 were bound for Germany. Many were enroute to South America. It is believed that British and French censors read the mail in these bags and this may account for the British blacklist.

(By Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 20.—Further developments in the peace movement in Europe now await the presentation of the formal reply of the Entente Allies to the proposal of the Central Powers. David Lloyd George, the British premier, and Premier Briand of France have indicated that this reply will speedily be forthcoming.

Military operations in the European field of war are at a low ebb. The driving campaign of Field Marshal von Mackensen in Rumania seems nearly at an end. In any event, whether or not some further move of an important nature is in contemplation in this war theatre, the reports show comparative quiet to be prevailing at the present.

Little Activity. On the Franco-Belgium front also there is a lull with the quieting down of the recent activity at Verdun, while latest reports from both the Russian and Austro-Italian armies show but little more than artillery duels and skirmishes.

In Macedonia, the reports show rain and fogs prevailing, with no military movement, with the exception of patrol engagements.

SOLDIERS IN DANK. (United Press.)

With the British armies, Dec. 20.—Despite the kaiser's orders to men in the field, stating that he had taken up the matter of peace with the Entente allies, it is believed here that the majority of German soldiers are ignorant of peace proposals.

Several prisoners taken claim to know nothing of peace negotiations. Only one German officer admitted having heard such a rumor. It is reported here that General von Hindenberg is dissatisfied with the turn of affairs on the eastern front.

ON VERGE OF FAMINE. (United Press.)

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Several large Russian towns are on the verge of famine, Swedish newspapers have printed, according to the press bureau today. These newspapers stated that it is impossible to buy the store of grain now held in Russia, and in some cases civil authorities have been using from the military store.

PROHIBITION NECESSARY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE

Washington, Dec. 20.—The big congressional hearing in which preparedness advocates hope for a new system continued today. The senate and the house joint committee heard high departmental officials. The house heard experts tell of the nation's lack of preparedness. Senator Webb said that total prohibition is really necessary to national defense. He pointed to European nations prohibiting the traffic in liquor immediately after they were called upon to defend their borders.

CAPTAIN AND SIX OF CREW PERISH IN STORM

(By United Press.)

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 20.—Captain Peterson and his crew of six, of the American schooner, William Mason, are believed to have perished in a storm that swept this vicinity a week ago. Two bodies and considerable wreckage believed to have been of the William Mason have washed ashore here. The William Mason was a 465-ton, three-masted schooner.

SITUATION QUIET. (By United Press.)

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Strong artillery activity along the Somme and in the Champagne sector was reported today. Repulse of several Russian attacks on the eastern front was also reported. In Macedonia, the situation was reported more quiet.

Greater artillery activity north of Verdun was reported in the official statement today.

TWELVE CITIES WILL GET GIFTS FROM ST. NICK

Federal Farm Loan Board Expects To Make Decision Within Few Days

FEW DISTRICTS AND CITIES UNDETERMINED

Board Hoped To Make Public Location of Banks on December 20

(Associated Press)

Washington, Dec. 20.—The federal farm loan board expects to announce within a few days the location of the 12 farm loan banks to be established throughout the country. Sometime ago the board announced that it hoped to make public the location of these banks December 20, but it was said today that the district and location in some instances still were undetermined.

N. D. REGIMENT TO LEAVE FOR HOME, JAN. 7

(By United Press.)

Llano Grande, Texas, Dec. 20.—The First North Dakota regiment, national guards, is due to leave here for Fort Snelling, Minn., about January 7.

This was the word given out by officers of the regiment today. Major Stacey of General Berry's staff at Chicago today wired that the soldiers would move as a part of "group three" to Fort Snelling, Minn.

It will probably be about February 1 before the North Dakotans are on the soil of their home state as civilians again.

TWO MONTHS. (Associated Press.)

Fargo, N. D., Dec. 20.—It will be two months before the national guardsmen will return from the border, declared Major Angus Fraser, just returned to Fargo. Lack of equipment will delay transportation home.

J. BARLEYCORN IS VICTOR BY 23,000 IN BOSTON

(United Press)

Boston, Dec. 20.—Final figures on the prohibition election show John Barleycorn to have won in Boston by 23,051.

PAPER COST NOT DUE TO SHORTAGE IN THE RAW MATERIAL

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 20.—The present high price of paper is not due to a scarcity of rags and old paper stock, according to officers of The National Association of Waste Material Dealers, who are in quarterly session here.

Paper manufacturers, they say, recently assured the dealers they were not in the market.

GERMAN PRESS COMMENT. (By Associated Press.)

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 20.—Commenting on Premier Lloyd George's speech, the Tegeltche Rundschau of Berlin says:

"Reparation could be demanded by England only if Germany had declared war on England, if we were to blame for the war, if we had committed a crime against international law, and if we had been defeated."

The Lokal Anzeiger takes the viewpoint that Mr. Lloyd George's remarks about reparation are of no value, inasmuch as nothing has been said thus far about peace conditions. This paper continues:

"If Lloyd George means to postpone satisfying Europe's desire for peace until the time when the Entente is successful in conquering Germany's armies and those of her allies, then the whole of Europe, as well as Lloyd George, knows full well that this announcement means eternal war unless it is in the power of the German command to bring it to an earlier termination than Lloyd George supposes."

CHRISTMAS SHIPMENTS GREATEST IN HISTORY

New York, Dec. 20.—Christmas shipments are the greatest in the nation's history, head of several express companies here reported today. They said that the Christmas shipments this year started earlier than ever before and that all shipments are moving promptly all over the nation.

IS CHOSEN REGENT OF NEW POLAND



Archduke Charles Stephen of Austria may be the first king of new Poland. He has been chosen regent of the territory held by the Central Powers. The archduke is a cousin of the late Emperor Francis Joseph and commander of the Austrian navy. He is 56.

COMMISSIONERS APPOINT MORRIS AS CITY ASSESSOR

Named for Two Years at Salary of \$1500 Per—Begins Office Tenure January 1

The city commissioners in session last evening appointed Edward E. Morris for a term of two years as city assessor, at a salary of \$1,500 a year. The appointment was recommended by Commissioner R. C. Hatley, and concurred in by President A. W. Lucas and Commissioner Chris Eertich.

The appointment marks a new procedure in matters relative to the assessment of city property, collection of fines, taxes and the taking of the city census, creating a department similar to that in Fargo and Grand Forks with a man on the job annually instead of a period of 60 days as formerly. It is believed that this department will save the city annually more than the salary of the man at the head, who will watch all property subject to taxation, that none escapes. Poll taxes, too, will be collected by this department, as well as statistics kept which will be of special value for reference.

Edward E. Morris will enter upon his official duties the first of the year. His office will in all probability be located in the city hall. He has made a number of assessments in the city.

ABANDONED CHRISTMAS BABY "FINE" --- WOMEN ENTER NOT GUILTY PLEA

(United Press)

"Oh, he's fine," came the cheerful response from the Bismarck hospital this morning in answer to an inquiry as to the condition of the "abandoned Christmas baby," left on the back porch of the George Will home, 323 Third street, Monday night.

Rumors gained circulation last evening and again this morning that several wanted to adopt blue-eyed, gurgling little Paul Raymond Ward. Names mentioned were communicated with over telephone. The stories then lost their value.

Shortly after 9 o'clock this morning, Mrs. Helen Ward, mother of the three-weeks old infant, and Mrs. Margaret Garsman, the woman's sister, were led into the chambers of the district court by Sheriff French and both entered a plea of not guilty through their attorney, A. T. Faber of Glen Ullin, N. D., to the abandonment of the child on the evening of December 18.

The case will be tried some time in January, the present term being continued over until January 16.

NAMED SPECIAL COUNSEL

City Commissioners Appoint Attorney C. L. Young to Represent City in Federal Hearing.

Attorney C. L. Young of the law firm of Newton, Dullam & Young was last night named by the city commissioners as special counsel to represent the city at the paving controversy hearing to be held in Fargo the latter part of this month before Judge Amidon.

PRESIDENT TAKES STROLL. (United Press)

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Wilson surprised White House attaches today by suddenly leaving the White House and walking to the home of Senator John Sharpe Williams. No explanations were offered.

"I have been ill and unable to attend a conference between some of the Mississippi constituents of mine and the president recently. Knowing that I desired to talk with him, he was kind enough to come to my home. That is all I can say," is all that Senator Williams would say, following the interview.

Christmas Minus Salary At Capitol

Official Payroll Held Up Pending Settlement of Judges' Dispute

'KANGAROO COURT' HAD NO AUTHORITY, LEMKE

Attorney for Justices-Elect Warns Auditor and Treasurer Not To Pay

There was no pay-day at the capitol today for any elective officials from the governor down, and including all of the eight members of the supreme court.

Notices have been served on the state treasurer and the state auditor by Attorney William Lemke, representing the justices-elect, warning them to issue no vouchers and pay no salaries to the three retiring supreme court judges. Mr. Lemke styles the provisional supreme tribunal a "kangaroo court," and states that its members possessed no more authority than "any other four men who might have been picked up on the street."

Trouble Anticipated. Anticipating some action of this nature, Auditor Jorgenson at the last meeting of the auditing board, suggested that a resolution be adopted instructing him to issue warrants for all elective officers except the retiring members of the supreme court. This action was not taken, and as a result, operating under the rule which officials has obtained of considering the official pay-roll in a lump, the state auditor before leaving Sunday for Fargo instructed Deputy Edwards to hold up the entire payroll until his return next Saturday.

The elective officers—Governor Hanna, Secretary of State Hall, commissioners of agriculture, blint; of insurance, W. C. Taylor; of railroads, Stuttmann, Mann and Anderson; Superintendent of Public Instruction E. J. Taylor, State Auditor Jorgenson and State Treasurer Steen—may get their December pay before Christmas, but there is a very healthy chance that they will not.

To Hold Up All Warrants. State Treasurer John Steen is out of the city. It is understood, however, that he will adopt the policy of refusing to pay any one of the six justices, elect and retiring, whose terms of office now are in dispute until he is ordered by some competent authority to pay and is told whom to pay.

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CARRANZA CHIEF BITTERLY SCORES GENERAL BELL

(United Press)

El Paso, Dec. 20.—With the declaration that he would give every assistance to deserters from the United States army, who finally crossed the border into Mexico, General Gonzales, Carranza commandant at Juarez, in a statement issued today, bitterly assailed General Bell, commander of the American forces here for his failure to return to the Mexican officer, Comandante.

General Bell, claiming the case to be either civil or political, said today he has no authority to return Comandante Carranza upon a military order from Mexico.

Gonzales, in the statement issued today, cited that several orders issued upon the United States authorities for the return of Comandante had failed. The United States authorities here had heard that Comandante had been routed from his new command by Gonzales.

On the other hand Gonzales claims that Comandante had been ordered to Chihuahua City, but that he had fled here with government funds. Gonzales denied that Comandante had been ordered to replace him.

"TOLD YOU SO." (By United Press.)

Washington, Dec. 20.—"I told you so" is the sentiment of the German embassy today. It was pointed out that ten months ago Ambassador von Fernstorff told the United Press that there would be no successful peace moves until the ministers that had brought about the war had been replaced.

LLOYD GEORGE LEAVES DOOR WIDE OPEN

(United Press)

Amsterdam, Dec. 20.—It Lloyd George expects the war to go on until Germany is crushed, the war will go on eternally, until German armies complete it, German newspapers which arrived here today say.

The Allies have not slammed the door in the face of Germany's peace messengers. The Allies, instead, have merely said to Germany "Don't come again in the attitude of a victor."

This was the view taken today of Premier Lloyd George's speech in the house of commons yesterday. It was regarded that if Germany really wants peace, she now knows how to come about it.

Lloyd George has destroyed Germany's idea that England dominated the Entente Allies, according to popular belief. His statement at the outset of the speech that the Allies had reached the same decision certainly seemed to have established no domination by any ally over the balance.

Lloyd George's speech was generally accepted here today without opposition. "The country is Lloyd George's. What is he going to do with it?" is the popular sentiment.

FUNSTON FEARS MEXICAN ATTACKS

(By Associated Press.)

San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 20.—General Funston today ordered Col. Richard H. Wilson, commander of troops in the Yuma district, to send a sufficient force to Ajo, Ariz., to protect the place against threatened Mexican troubles.

BANDITS GET \$20,000 CASH

(Associated Press)

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 20.—The Skiatook, ten miles from Tulsa, was robbed of \$20,000 early today by safe blowers, who escaped. Posses were formed here to pursue the robbers.

UNCLE SAM NOT ANXIOUS TO POSE AS PEACE MAKER

Secret Diplomacy To Characterize Next Move To End War

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE MAY BE FORMED

Undue Publicity Would Be Fatal Blunder High State Officials Think

(By United Press.)

Washington, Dec. 20.—Secret diplomacy is to be the next move in the big peace game.

This became evident here today. It is likely that England will be willing to have publicity given her answer. But it is doubted if Germany will consent to publicity of her next move.

These facts convinced United States authorities that it will be well to keep hands off for the present. This government will pass along all negotiations and thus will know at all times what is being done.

Not Peace-maker. This government is anxious to serve humanity in the promotion of peace, but it is unlikely it will assume the attitude of a peace-maker to get the black eye that usually goes with the office.

It is considered almost certain that an international league will be considered imperative. The view of President Wilson and Secretary Lansing is known to be that peace is so vital to the world that it would not be a diplomatic courtesy, but a fatal blunder to give undue publicity to peace moves now.

Nationalization of British shipping, mentioned briefly by Premier Lloyd George as one of the first acts of the new ministry, commands more interest here from the strictly American point of view than any other phase of the premier's speech.

Opens New Controversy. What effect it would have on American foreign trade or on the status of British ships sunk by German submarines has opened a new and unexpected series of questions which officials regard with much concern.

The taking into the national service of the whole merchant marine following closely on England's announcement that she could not guarantee coal at any of her coaling stations the world over, except to ships carrying allied interests is thought by officials at first glance to turn over the great majority of the world's carrying trade to war purposes.

The effect on commerce for American purposes and not of service to the Allies is problematical, especially as to the completeness with which Lloyd George enforces the order. Nevertheless there is in the law nothing the United States can do should the whole British merchant marine be withdrawn from American trade and harbors.

"TOLD YOU SO." (By United Press.)

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