Ottumwa Tri-Weekly Courier

IOWA—Unsettled and colder probably snow east part; LOCAL TEMP.—6 p. m., 35; 8 a. m., 30; 12 m., 36; max., 49; min., 26.

VOLUME SIXTY-EIGHT OTTUMWA, WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1915 NUMBER 59

FEELING IS THAT ANCONA MATTER CAN BE SETTLED

Austro-Hungarian Reply to Last U. S. Note Will Be Sent Very Soon

VIENNA GOVERNMENT ANXIOUS FOR TERMS

Willing to Do Utmost to Maintain Good Relations With This Country

London, Dec. 24. — A message from Baron Burian, Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, to Baron Zwiedinek, the Austro-Hungarian charge d'affaires at Washington, is circulated in London today by the wireless press. It is dated Vienna and was picked up in England on its transit by wireless telegraphy to the United States. The communication reads:

"The American note was handed over to me on the twenty-first. Tell the secretary of state the answer we are now preparing will be guided by the same concern for good relations between both countries as mentioned by the federal government. In consequence of the Christmas holidays our answer cannot be expected before next week."

Vienna, Dec. 24. — In all quarters the conviction is now entertained that the differences between Austria-Hungary and the United States which arose from the Ancona incident are susceptible to amicable settlement.

The Austro-Hungarian reply to the latest Ancona note may be expected in a few days.

The second Ancona note from Washington is being studied here. Meanwhile the press is withholding comment. The remarks incident to the announcement that the note had been received were temperate and even friendly in tenor and all circles are convinced the outlook may fairly be described as favorable. No inkling has been gained as to the nature of the forthcoming Austro-Hungarian communication to the United States but in this connection interest attaches to an article by Prof. Henry Lammasch, one of the leading Austrian authorities on international law.

Professor Lammasch, who is a member of the tribunal at The Hague, suggests that, in view of the fact that there is a misunderstanding between the two nations, an international commission of naval experts from neutral countries be appointed to examine the Ancona case, as was done in the famous Doggerbank incident. It is felt in certain quarters here that this procedure would offer the best chance of establishing the facts and thus placing the responsibility.

The Associated Press correspondent can state on the best authority that the Austrian government as well as the German is willing to do its utmost to maintain good relations with the United States, providing no conditions regarded as prejudicial to the honor of this nation are imposed.

At the American embassy the impression prevails that it is still possible to arrive at a solution of the Ancona question.

COMPLY OR BREAK.

Paris, Dec. 24. — The Matin, in an editorial today on the latest note sent to Austria-Hungary by the United States relative to the sinking of the steamer Ancona by an Austrian submarine, says:

"The submarine commander having been declared not responsible, the government is indicted for murder in his place and if that government does not give full satisfaction it must be treated as a murderer. This language can signify nothing less than a rupture of diplomatic relations unless America's demands are complied with."

PAPER ATTACKS WILSON.

Amsterdam, Dec. 24. — In commenting on the second American note to Austria-Hungary concerning the Ancona incident, the Volks Zeitung of Cologne, Germany, makes a vigorous attack on President Wilson. It says the president will not let slip an opportunity to gain a great success, since "failure would prejudice his prospects for the next election."

The Berlin correspondent of the Cologne Gazette says the note leaves the door open for friendly discussion. It is couched in conciliatory terms, he adds, and the questions as to the facts of the case and the legality of the submarine commander's act may be discussed calmly and objectively.

REPORT AUSTRIAN LOSS.

Paris, Dec. 24.—A repulse of the Austrians, on whom large losses are declared to have been inflicted, is reported in an official Montenegrin statement received here today.

GERMANY THINKS SHE CAN PROVIDE HER GRAIN NOW

ORDER OF YEAR AGO TO PLANT MORE FOODSTUFF IS REVERSED BY GOVERNMENT.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—The Prussian ministry of agriculture has issued an appeal to farmers to increase their acreage of sugar beets. The appeal says that a year ago farmers were urged to restrict the beet area and plant more grain because it seemed uncertain whether Germany would have a sufficient supply of grain and because foreign sugar markets were closed to Germany. Now, however, this situation is wholly changed.

It has been proved, the ministry states, that Germany is able by economic methods and with some foreign assistance to meet her own requirements for grain, whereas the large increase in sugar consumption has been a feature of the past twelve months, the people eating more sugar as a substitute for fat. Much sugar has been used in making preserved fruits, much has been sent to the front in chocolate for the soldiers and large quantities have been fed to live stock. This years sugar crop also yielded indifferently, owing to the remarkable drought, and although the same cause reduced the grain yield, it is now proved beyond doubt that no grain shortage is to be feared.

Other reasons suggest that the necessity for increasing the best crop, the ministry says. The molasses from the sugar mills has proved the most valuable horse feed at the front and is becoming the chief article of feed. Furthermore, factories are springing up which will use molasses as a basis for producing a newly invented feed yeast for animals. This is another circumstance that the ministry reckons will further increase the demand for sugar molasses.

A larger sowing also is necessary, continues the appeal, because the scarcity of nitrogenous commercial fertilizers renders the extension of the crop necessary in order to get even the same harvest as previously. An inadequate force of laborers and plowhorses for the autumn plowing also is used as an argument for enlarging the beet plantings.

ENGLAND MAY LET SUPPLIES THROUGH

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24. —Negotiations looking to a withdrawal or modification of Great Britain's decree forbidding the shipment of hospital supplies from the United States to the central powers are in progress between the American and British governments. Refusal of Great Britain to accede to the request of the United States would affect the entire program of the American Red Cross for relief work in Europe. Large consignments of supplies now are stored in New York pending the outcome of the negotiations.

PREMIER THINKS ELECTION VICTORY

ADHERENTS OF GREEK MINISTER OF INTERIOR SAY ABSTENTIONS WERE NORMAL.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The Athens correspondent of the Figaro sends an interview secured from M. Venizelos, former Greek premier, concerning the recent parliamentary elections in Greece in which the adherents of M. Gounaris, minister of the interior, were successful and in which the Venizelos party abstained in most cases from going to the polls. The correspondent quotes M. Venizelos as follows:

"The elections were a brilliant triumph of my policy and ideas. A great majority of the voters abstained from voting. I am entitled to say that the verdict was still more categorical than that of last May. It is in vain that my opponents attempt to explain the abstentions by the mobilization. It must not be forgotten that we had a hundred thousand men with the colors last May and that the army voted in the present elections at several centers and that the part of the army which could not vote contained a large number of my party. In certain polling places only three votes were recorded."

The correspondent says that he was also received by M. Gounaris and the other ministers who maintained that the elections were conducted in a free and open manner and that the number of abstentions was normal.

The Athens correspondent of the Havas agency has the following to say concerning the political situation in Greece:

"When parliament reassembles states of siege probably will be voted in order to stop the merciless attacks on the government's policy. M. Gounaris insists that the present cabinet remain, but unless the situation changes through the king's intervention, a reconstruction of the cabinet probably will occur."

BULGARS HINT AT GREEK INVASION

Dispatches to London Say They Will Make Effort to Expel the Allies

NOTHING IMPORTANT ON VARIOUS FRONTS

Despite Prediction of a Christmas Truce, No Developments Yet

London, Dec. 24.—Despite predictions of a universal Christmas truce nothing of great importance has developed on the various fronts.

From Galicia the Russians report success in an action against the Austrians near Trembowla, where there has been an indication recently that Austrians and Germans are seeking to strengthen their lines. Although no activity is reported on the Mesopotamian front, the Russians are advancing steadily in Persia in an effort to link their forces with those of their British allies.

On Hartman's Weilerkopf the French claim to have maintained their gains on a front of one mile, but admit that their left has been compelled to fall back. The Germans assert they have retaken the lost ridge, with the capture of a large number of prisoners.

Special dispatches to London papers state the Bulgarians are preparing to invade Greek territory in an effort to expel the allies from Saloniki. The entente forces are engaged in strengthening their positions and express confidence there is no immediate prospect of an offensive against them.

Parliament adjourned without receiving the figures concerning the Earl of Derby's recruiting plan but on reassemblying after the holidays the members will have the facts in regard to the question whether conscription is necessary.

ALEXIS HAS EXPERIENCE.

Rome, Dec. 24.—Princes Alexis Karageorgevitch of Serbia, a cousin of King Peter, has arrived here after an adventrous escape from Albania with his wife. The prince says that what is left of the Serbian army has resumed contact with the Bulgarians east of Elbassan, where fighting has been going on for three days.

King Peter went on horseback from Scutari to Tirana, the prince states, and then to Avlona, from which place he is watching the operations of his army, which is commanded by Gen. Missitech.

Italy is to open subscriptions next month to a war loan which will be issued at 97½ lire, bear five per cent interest and run for twenty-five years, it is announced from Rome.

The Bulgarians and the remnant of the Serbian army are again in contact in Albania, according to Prince Alexis Karageorgevitch of Serbia, who has arrived in Rome with reports of a three day battle near Elbassan. King Peter is at Avlona.

Violent artillery actions in the vicinity of Seddul Bahr on the Gallipoli peninsula, still held by the allied forces, are told by the Turkish war office. Part of the allied fleet apparently is lying close in, the official statement reporting an allied cruiser hit by a shot from a Turkish battery.

The budget committee of the Russian duma has adopted resolutions declaring that Russia could not think of peace while the power of the German forces remained unbroken, according to a news agency dispatch from Petrograd.

THINK NOW MANY ARE AGAINST WAR CREDIT

Paris, Dec. 24. — A Zurich dispatch says that the number of members of the reichstag who expressed opposition to the new war credit of 10,000,000,000 marks on Tuesday was larger than at first reported. According to this information, twenty social democrats abstained from voting, which, with the socialists who voted in the negative, brings up the total opposed to the proposition to forty-two.

Berlin dispatches of Tuesday said nineteen socialists voted in the negative.

LUNGS ARE CONGESTED

"Divine Sarah" Says She Can Not Come to America Yet But Is Going to England.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The Petit Journal today publishes a telegram received from Sarah Bernhardt, who is at her home in Andernos, near Bordeaux, relative to her reported illness. Her message is quoted as follows:

"I was suddenly stopped while 'Les Cathedrales' was in full tide of success, by congestion of the lungs. I thought myself cured and came back to Paris too soon, where I had a relapse, but I am again recovering. My physicians will not allow me to leave for America but will permit me to go to England in a week's time."

HENRY FORD NOW ABOARD STEAMER ENROUTE TO U. S.

AIR OF MYSTERY SURROUNDS PEACE PROMOTER'S SUDDEN DECISION TO RETURN.

Christiana, Norway, Dec. 24.—The Norwegian liner Bergensfjord with Henry Ford on board sailed for New York this morning. Mr. Ford stated before leaving Bergen that the peace expedition would continue under the auspices of the Women's International Peace association.

The Rev. Samuel S. Marquis, dean of St. Paul's cathedral, Detroit, sailed from Bergen with Mr. Ford.

Henry Ford's departure from Europe apparently marks the termination in its original form of the most novel of the many movements which have been undertaken to bring about the ending of the war. Mr. Ford's announcement that the Women's International Peace association henceforth will conduct the expedition would seem to indicate that, so far as he personally is concerned, he will relinquish the self imposed task which he expressed in the phrase, "Out of the trenches by Christmas." It has not been made clear, however, whether Mr. Ford wil continue to give financial support to the enterprise.

The Women's International Peace association has been in existence for some time. It held a congress at The Hague last spring and appointed delegations to visit the capitals of various European and American nations. One of the most prominent women at the congress was Madame Rosika Schwimmer, president of the Hungarian Woman Suffrage association, and a member of the Ford peace party. After the congress at The Hague, Madame Schwimmer came to the United States to continue her work for peace. She went to Detroit to see Mr. Ford, and it was reported, it was she who suggested to him the idea of the peace expedition.

Reports of Dissension.

Before the peace ship Oscar II. reached the other side there were reports of dissension among the peace delegates. When Mr. Ford reached Christiana he kept in the background, it being said that he was ill. It was not until last night, however, that the unconfirmed report that he had quit the party reached this country.

Although full details have not been received, it would appear that he made his departure secretly and that most of the peace delegates, at the time they left Christiana for Stockholm, were ignorant of the fact that he was not to go on with them. One Christiana dispatch said Mr. Ford had boarded a train from Christiana for Bergen yesterday at about the time his former associates were leaving for Stockholm. It was said Mr. Ford's sudden departure was due to the fact that his physician had ordered him to rest.

Before leaving Christiania for Bergen, Mr. Ford wrote out the following statement for the press:

"I am satisfied with what has been accomplished in Christiania. Peace has been given publicity. Newspapers have power to end the war, for it is through publicity that the gospel of peace is spread.

"Norway is like every other country. The people are all right."

In announcing at Bergen the circumstances under which the expedition would be continued, Mr. Ford said a committee had been appointed to act as leaders. It consists of Judge Ben Lindsey of Denver, the Rev. Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones of Chicago, John Barry of San Francisco, Lieut. Gov. A. J. Bethea of South Carolina and Louis P. Lochner of Chicago, Mr. Ford's secretary.

Friends Are Surprised.

Detroit, Dec. 24.—Although Mrs. Henry Ford could not be communicated with this afternoon, those close to the family expressed great surprise at Mr. Ford's return home. His private secretary here said no cablegram had been received by the family announcing that he would return.

PLAN READY FOR CREDIT SYSTEM

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—The congressional subcommittee of the joint committee on rural credits had before it today for approval the final draft of a rural credits bill. This committee wil report to the full committee next Monday after which the latter body will make its report to both houses on rural credit legislation. The subcommittee had incorporated into the final draft of the bill a provision fixing at $6,000,000 the capital stock of the twelve land mortgage banks which, distributed about the country according to the agriculture needs, are to form the backbone of the rual credit system. These banks will be permitted to charge a maximum of six per cent interest to the farm borrowers but are expected by the committees to charge less interest than that normally. This land bank system will be independent of the federal reserve or any other existing banking system and will be controlled by a central board whose officers will be in Washington.

POSTOFFICE IS KEPT VERY BUSY

Tons of Mail Being Handled During Holiday Rush, Which Is Heavy

CHRISTMAS MAILING BEING DONE EARLY

Postmaster Says People Do Not Delay as Formerly; Employs Extra Help

Christmas rush at the postoffice has been one continuous hustle for the past ten days but particularly so this week. Tons of mail matter have been handled and everything has been handled without a hitch, according to Postmaster C. W. McCarty.

"The people seem to have become educated to send their Christmas mail early in the same manner as they have been taught by the press and merchants to do their Christmas shopping weeks in advance of the great holiday," said Mr. McCarty.

"As a result of this we have been able to do our work here with some degree of method and system, and no congestion or unnecessary delays have been occasioned by having the rush come on within the last few days of the Christmas week.

"Thus far we have got along fine and the incoming matter has been dispatched by the aid of an addition al force of carriers employed for the occasion, to all parts of the city. The regular mail for points outside Ottumwa has kept the regular force busy but all has been handled with a nicety for every employe has taken a personal interest in getting the work done in good order. That we have succeeded thus far so well is due to the excellent spirit shown by all the employes of the Ottumwa office. We hope that the patrons of the office are satisfied and have no reason to think that they are not.

"The volume this year was even greater than last year, but the rush was met with organization and congestion was avoided. Last Monday was an exceptionally heavy day, but this only emphasizes the fact that people are doing their Christmas mailing earlier than in the past. We expect to have every package handled by tomorrow evening and with three autos and a number of high school boys assisting in the delivery, I believe that everyone will get their Christmas mail on time provided it arrives here soon enough."

FOUR ASPHYXIATED BY POWDER FUMES

Brandy City, Cal., Dec. 24.—Four men were asphyxiated by powder fumes, three others are unconscious today and expected to die, and another is in a serious condition as the result of gases generated by failure of a 22,000 pound blast of low grade powder, set in the Brandy City mine near here to explode fully yesterday. Superintendent G. W. Taylor is the only one said to have a chance for recovery.

In Brandy City, a mile away, gas fumes were so thick that many persons were affected. No serious injuries, however, were reported.

MINER IS RESCUED.

Shamokin, Pa., Dec. 24.—After being entombed by a fall of coal at the Richardson colliery of the Reading company since Monday last, Joseph Renock, a miner, was taken out alive by rescuers today. He was very weak but it is said he will recover.

TWO KILLED WHEN SECTIONS COLLIDE

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 24.—The second section of Delaware, Lackawanna & Western passenger train No. 9, which was rammed at Slateford, near Delaware Water Gap last night by the third section of the same train, causing the death of two persons and injuries to five others, reached this city today bearing the victims, who were taken to local hospitals.

While one or two of the injured were seriously hurt, it is believed all will recover. The killed were both colored, one a porter of the wrecked train and the other Anna Jones of Ithaca, N. Y.

DISCOVER BIG GAS WELL

Estimate Flow on Tract Northeast of Blackwell, Okla., is 70,000,000 Feet a Day.

Blackwell, Okla., Dec. 24.—What is claimed by local oil and gas men to be one of the largest gas wells in the world was brought in last night on a lease, eleven miles northeast of here. The flow is estimated at between 65,000,000 and 70,000,000 feet daily.

What was hitherto believed to be the largest well in the midcontinent field was brought in about two months ago, a mile from last night's entry. It was capped and is said to have showed a flow of 50,000,000 feet. Gas was struck at 1,710 feet.

TERRAZAS IS IN NOMINAL CHARGE OF DISTRICT NOW

SUCCEEDS PALIZA AS COMMANDER AFTER LATTER FLEES FOLLOWING DEMONSTRATION.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 24.—Silvestre Terrazas, former secretary of state for Chihuahua under the Villa government, was in nominal charge of territory recently surrendered to the de facto Mexican governmen by Villa followers today. He suceeded Col. Flaviano Paliza as commander at Juarez when Paliza fled across the border after a demonstration by soldiers last night when they failed to receive their wages in silver and were offered currency of the de facto government instead.

Terrazas is the third former Villa leader to assume charge at Juarez within twenty-four hours, Gen. Manuel Ochoa having crosed to El Paso yesterday when friends of Fidel Avila, former governor, and Gen. Victorian Avila, whom he had arrested, threatened reprisals.

Juarez was quiet. Gen. Alvaro Obregon, military chief of the de facto government, remained in El Paso, awaiting, it is said, the arrival of additional forces before entering Mexico at this port. Nothing concerning the movements of Gen. Francisco Villa was known here.

George C. Carothers, representing the American state department, made representations to General Obregon concerning four American employes of the Hearst ranch near Madera, who are said to be prisoners of the Villa force there. He is understood to have urged that a military force be sent from Chihuahua City to effect their release.

CURRENCY IS PROBLEM

Establishment of It on a Basis Acceptable to Soldiers Worries Carranza.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 24.—The most pressing problem of the Carranza government of Mexico in its newly acquired Villa territory is the establishment of paper currency on a basis that will insure its acceptance by former Villa soldiers.

On first payment in currency to the troops, following the rioting in the streets recently, it was said that silver would be forthcoming.

Last night's near riot was the result of the discovery that there was no silver in sight. Preparations, however, had been made for an outbreak and it was speedily put down after a show of arms in the street.

It was said the outbreak was started by some of Gen. Manuel Ochoa's men, who, bewildered by the departure without notice of their leader yesterday, believed they were to be deprived of the desired coin for their services in the army.

U. S. TO INQUIRE ABOUT SINKING

LINER REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING BASIS FOR ACTION.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—The sinking of the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru in the Mediterranean, reported torpedoed without warning, will be made the subject of an inquiry by the United States. Consular agents will be asked to obtain accurate versions of the incident and forward them without delay to the state department.

The state department's inquiry in the case is based solely on reports that the liner had an American passenger aboard. Although he was reported rescued, it is felt that if the liner was torpedoed without warning his life was endangered. Should reports that the vessel was torpedoed without warning and that the submarine was an Austrian be verified officially, it is said further diplomatic correspondence with Austria-Hungary will undoubtely ensue, in which the tordoing of ships without warning will be discussed and demand again be made that American lives be not placed in peril by such practices.

After conferring at some length with Secretary Lansing, Baron Zwiedinek returned to the embassy and spent a half hour preparing a communication which was delivered to Secretary Lansing by messenger. It could not be ascertained what the communication contained, the secretary saying that the matter was of a confidential nature. Baron Zwiedinek denied himself to callers today.

FILE ROOSEVELT'S NAME.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 24.—Petitions to place the name of Theodore Roosevelt on the presidential primary ballot in Michigan as candidate of the national progressive party were filed today with the secretary of state. Most of the signatures were obtained in Detroit.

ASKS OFFICIAL BE REMOVED IN HAMILTON CASE

Application Filed for the Removal of E. C. Loomis as Administrator

EASTERN MAN HOLDS SIMILAR POSITION

Claims Relationship With Former Ottumwa Woman; Hearing January 3

An application for the removal of the administrator in the estate of Belle R. Hamilton has been filed in the office of the clerk of district court and will be resisted by Administrator E. C. Loomis, his counsel having taken a copy of the application this morning.

This action promises to unfold more of the life of the former Ottumwa woman of whom strange tales have been told since the effort to learn the facts about her estate has been started. But recently a story emanating from the east where Miss Hamilton died several months ago, would make it appear that her name was not Hamilton, but Rachel Cook instead, notwithstanding that for forty-five years she lived and was well known here as Miss Belle R. Hamilton.

The applicant for the removal of Mr. Loomis as administrator is James M. Cook, who claims relationship to the decedent whose estate is in question. Mr. Cook with Carrie E. Updyke, the latter a former resident of Ottumwa and companion of Miss Hamilton, were appointed administrators in New York although Cook is said to be a resident of Pennsylvania. Miss Updyke died a short time ago and Mr. Cook asks that Mr. Loomis position as administrator be declared vacant by the court. The application will be heard in district court here January 3.

Sues For Damages.

Charles H. Snook by his next friend, Charles T. Snook has filed a petition for damages in the district court, naming Drew Collingwood and Joseph Collingwood as defendants. The sum sought is $3,000 and is asked as a result of an accident on Church street several weeks when young Snook was struck by the Collingwood auto and seriously injured. The boy was en route with companions to a football practice of the high school team that was being held in the baseball park and had just jumped off a wagon on which he was riding when hit by the car.

The petitioner claims that the boy was permanently injured and [illegible] the specific injuries cited [illegible] of one ear.

Divorce actions are [illegible] cases filed on the closing [illegible] filing period for the [illegible] which was Thursday, ev[illegible] M. Lester vs. A[illegible] Taylor vs. Geor[illegible] to two divorces [illegible] Tisdale Lum[illegible] man and Stella [illegible] mechanic's lien [illegible] Phoenix Trust [illegible] against George [illegible] a note in which [illegible] 861.57 is asked [illegible] petition asking [illegible] from George F[illegible] Hardware Co[illegible]

MAKE D[illegible] OF HOL[illegible]

Pittsburgh, [illegible] tion of the C[illegible] Pittsburgh in[illegible] completed be[illegible] the last env[illegible] out no less t[illegible] the hands of [illegible] ied men, acco[illegible] banks. All th[illegible] tories have paid [illegible] week, or will p[illegible] Allegheny coun[illegible] burgh and the c[illegible] will distribute [illegible] railroads center[illegible] have their sem[illegible] this week and [illegible] managers expect [illegible] tribution this af[illegible]

GET INC[illegible]

New York, Dec[illegible] and 7,000 employ[illegible] Rapid Transit Co[illegible] Christmas gift [illegible] the form of a [illegible] wages to take e[illegible] was estimated th[illegible] total about $250[illegible] tormen, conduct[illegible] affected.

DISTRI[illegible]

Worcester, [illegible] Graton and Ri[illegible] distributed $85[illegible] ployes as bonu[illegible] the past year [illegible] rush of busine[illegible]

WRECK[illegible]

St. Louis, D[illegible] Louis [illegible] wreck on the [illegible] Mo. [illegible] cisco near Jopl[illegible] offices of [illegible] at the general [illegible]