

JOHN BULL NOT BLUE BY LONG SHOT

Grumblers Give Wrong Impression; Great Mass of British Thoroughly Bent on Fighting to Bitter End

ARMIES OF ALLIES ARE STILL INTACT

Hope to Exhaust Human and Financial Resources of Teutons; Supplies of Shells Surpass Stores of Enemy

By ED L. KEEN. U. P. staff correspondent. LONDON, Dec. 30.—If John Bull could see himself as others see him he might mend his ways. But being constitutionally unable to apply the reverse English to his eyesight he gives his friends, neighbors and enemies an erroneous notion of his disposition.

Americans recently arrived in England have been astonished to find that this country is not in a state of utter despondency and demoralization. The visitor soon becomes convinced that the stories he has heard and read of internal turmoil, dissension and lack of interest in the successful prosecution of the war have been chiefly made in Germany. He quickly learns that although there has been much grumbling about the management of the war in the last year, a certain amount of industrial unrest and a negligible pro-peace sentiment, the great mass of Britons is more determined today than when the war started, to defeat Germany thoroughly.

John has himself to blame for the unfavorable opinion of him that apparently has been growing in the neutral world in the last few months. "What's the matter with England, anyhow?" constantly comes the query from his friends in America. Kipling says it's a "certain God-given lack of imagination which saves us from being over-concerned at the effect of our appearances on others." Others call it modesty; others, stupidity.

The worst failure of the year—the loss of Bulgaria to the allied cause—might have been prevented by a proper amount of judicious self-advertising applied at the right time where it would have done the most good. But John's dignity couldn't abide the press agent methods as skillfully employed by Kaiser Wilhelm. Bulgaria frankly put herself up for the highest bidder and the safest guarantee. Germany having a field in the advertising line with no effective counter-measures on the part of the allies, the Bulgars naturally concluded that the Central Powers were the most likely to be able to deliver the goods. It pays to advertise, not only for recruits but for possible allies.

The Englishman's fondness for grumbling which he simply can't curb even in war time is another token of his indifference to outside opinion. It is the inalienable privilege of the British soldier to carry a grudge against his officers, as it is the right of the British civilian to denounce the government. But this characteristic doesn't detract one whit from the bravery of the one or the loyalty of the other. It would be a great mistake to regard the recent hot debates in parliament, the outspoken and at times bitter criticisms of military miscalculations and diplomatic blunders, as evidences of mutiny or even weariness of the struggle.

True, the Englishman has found plenty in the last year to which to apply his traditional prerogative. From the grumblers' point of view it has been a dismal chapter, the Dardanelles disaster, the Gallipoli fiasco, the failure of the Big Push on the western front in the spring and fall, the German occupation of Poland, the obliteration of Serbia and the British retreat in Mesopotamia, against which the accession of Italy to the allied cause and her recent brilliant operations on the Isonzo front, the British conquest of German Southwest Africa, the putting out of business of some 60 German submarines in the North sea and adjacent waters, and the successful invasion of the Baltic by British

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TEXAS MAN IS FLEECE

By United Press. CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—It is the old, old story of two clever strangers, a countryman unsophisticated in the ways of the wicked world, but eager to add to his fortune. Vincent Baer, a wealthy stockman of Midland, Texas, was the victim. Two affable strangers made him their partner in a wire-tapping scheme and after a minor cleaning at Fort Worth they went to Cincinnati for a "grand killing."

As a result of the entire transaction Baer has \$20,000 of additional experience and wisdom.

JUDGE LINN WILL SERVE HIGHER UP

Takes Place on Supreme Court Commission by Appointment; Expects to Spend Only Few Months at It

Judge Will Linn returned this morning from Oklahoma City, where he has been on business with Governor Williams.

When seen this morning Judge Linn stated, in answer to the query as to whether or not he would accept the position upon the supreme court commission recently tendered him by the governor, that he would. The judge stated that the matter was mandatory, and that he could not decline the honor if he were so inclined.

For the reason that the December-January term of court, now in session, has a particularly heavy docket set for trial during the first half of January, Judge Linn will not assume his duties as commissioner until the fifteenth of the month. This will enable him to clear the more important and urgent cases from the docket.

Following his interview with Governor Williams yesterday, Judge Linn states that he feels the duties of the commission will detain him in Oklahoma City only a few months. Chief Justice Kane of the state supreme court will appoint a judge from another district to sit on the Grady and Caddo county benches during the time Judge Linn will be serving on the commission. The selection of the judge who will so serve has not yet been made by the chief justice, but will probably be announced within the next ten days.

The appointment of Judge Linn to a place upon the supreme court commission will in no manner affect the tenure of the present official court stenographer, D. M. Caveness of this district.

Two district judges from this section of Oklahoma have been appointed to places on the commission by Governor Williams, Judge Will Linn of Chickasha, and Judge T. P. Clay of Mangum.

Former Engineer is Claimed by Death

James D. Skelton died at his home, 1428 Henderson avenue last night, at the age of 53 years. Funeral services will be conducted from the late home of the deceased at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, Rev. G. Lyle Smith of the Christian church officiating. Mr. Skelton is survived by a widow.

James D. Skelton has resided in Chickasha for the last seven years. Up to twelve years ago he was a locomotive engineer running out of Denison, Texas. Although he has not railroaded for twelve years, Mr. Skelton remained a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, his lodge affiliation being held in Denison. It is possible that members of the Chickasha lodge of that order will officiate at the funeral as pall bearers.

Mrs. E. H. Reville and little daughter, Edith Mae, expect to leave today for their home in El Reno after spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Burke.

CAPTURED BY THE TEUTONS IN SERBIA



Photograph taken during the Teutonic drive through Serbia, showing captured Serbian soldiers being marched in the early morning to a detention camp. Among them are women, for the Serbian women fought as stubbornly as the men.

ALBANIANS NEW FOES OF SERBS

Prince William of Wied Gathers Forces and Co-operates with Bulgarians; Plans to Re-occupy Throne

By WILLIAM WOOD. U. P. staff correspondent.

ROME, Dec. 30.—Prince William of Wied, former ruler of Albania, has reorganized the Albanian tribes in the region east of Priseren and has begun an attack on the Serbs east of Scutari, where he is co-operating with the Bulgarian forces, according to reports reaching here.

It is said that the two armies plan to annihilate the Serbs in northern Albania and then drive the other armies southward on Avlona, where the Italians will be encountered.

It is reported that Prince William plans to occupy the Albanian throne again with the consent of the central powers.

PROHIBITIONISTS PUT IT UP TO OTHER PARTIES.

By United Press. CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The national committee of the Prohibition party has definitely decided to place no candidate in the field for the presidency if the candidate of the Democrats, Republicans or Progressives espouse the dry cause. The national convention will be held in Minneapolis, July 19.

PENN. OIL UP AGAIN

By United Press. PITTSBURGH, Dec. 30.—The South Pennsylvania Oil company today announced another advance in the price of crude oils.

Ten cents was added to the price of Pennsylvania, Mercer Black, Corning and New Castle, making Pennsylvania \$2.20 and the others \$1.75 per barrel.

An 8-cent advance that was announced for two other grades of oil makes Cabell \$1.78 and Somerset \$1.63. Ragland advanced three cents, making the price 75 cents.

GASOLINE PRICE AGAIN BOOSTED

By United Press. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—With the advance in the price of crude oil, the dealers here today boosted the price of gasoline another cent.

Standard Oil company agents are selling gasoline from wagons at 15.9 cents, while the independents are charging 17 cents at filling stations. Naptha has advanced one cent, reaching 15.4 and kerosene is steady at 6.9.

***** WEATHER FORECAST. For Oklahoma. ***** Probably rain or snow tonight and Friday. Local Temperature. During twenty-four hours ending 8 a. m. today: Maximum, 56 degrees. Minimum, 27 degrees.

SNOW HITS CALIFORNIA CITRUS FRUIT GROWERS.

By United Press. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Several points in the citrus fruit belt in California today reported the first snowfall in ten years.

RESIGNS AS MEMBER OF CABINET

By United Press. LONDON, Dec. 30.—Louis Y. Harcourt, member of the British cabinet since the year 1907, has resigned, according to unconfirmed reports.

Harcourt was a strong opponent of compulsory military service. He is said to be slated for viceroy of India. Harcourt was secretary of state for the colonies until the coalition ministry was organized last May when he became commissioner of works. His wife was Miss Mary Burns of New York, a cousin of J. P. Morgan.

It is reported that the cabinet will meet tomorrow to consider the form of the conscription bill which will soon be presented to parliament.

ALLIES WIN SEA BATTLE

By United Press. PARIS, Dec. 30.—The minister of marine announced today that the Austrian destroyer Littia was sunk and destroyed by a mine and that the destroyer Triglav was destroyed by gunfire in a battle with the allied squadron off Durazzo.

It was stated by the official announcement that the Austrian fleet was preparing to bombard the city when it encountered the allied warships.

FORD CRUISE IS COSTLY

By United Press. STOCKHOLM, Dec. 30.—Gaston Plantiffa, business manager of the Ford peace party, estimates that the expedition will cost the Detroit auto maker over a million dollars if the delegates hold long-drawn-out conferences at The Hague and London.

It is announced that the pilgrimage will be continued regardless of developments in the Austro-American controversy.

PRESIDENT TO PROLONG HIS VISIT

Extension of Honeymoon Regarded as Indicating Absence of Alarming Developments in Negotiations with Austria

By United Press. WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—It was announced at the White House today that President Wilson was planning to extend his honeymoon at Hot Springs, Va., till Wednesday instead of returning to the capital Monday as he originally intended.

The fact that the president is planning to prolong his stay is taken as an indication that there are no alarming developments in the negotiations with Austria relative to the Ancona case.

It is expected that new proposals from Germany relative to the settlement of matters growing out of the Lusitania case will be received by the state department next week. Germany has not yet agreed to a disavowal of the attack on the Lusitania although promising reparation for the American lives lost and agreeing to be governed by the principles of maritime warfare for which the American government contends.

Up to noon today there were no new developments in the Ancona case. Officials refused to have anything to say concerning it. It is generally believed, however, unless the forthcoming note from Austria meets the American demands diplomatic relations between the two countries will be severed.

OLD SUIT IS SETTLED

Sometime during the year 1908 a store belonging to Walter Halsey and situated on Second street, Chickasha, was destroyed by fire. The stock of goods in the store at the time was insured in the sum of \$850, in the Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance company of Springfield, Mass. Payment of the amount of the policy was refused by the insurance company and Halsey filed suit to recover during the early part of 1909. A trial of the case resulted in a judgment in the lower courts for the plaintiff.

The case was appealed by the attorneys of the defendant company and the state supreme court reversed and remanded the case on a technicality. Again in the lower courts Halsey got judgment. The judgment was for the original amount sued for, together with interest. Again, the case was carried by the defendant company to the state supreme court. This time the supreme judiciary affirmed the findings of the district court.

This morning the plaintiff, Halsey, received a check from the insurance company in the sum of \$1,645.00, this sum being the amount originally sued plus accrued interest from the date of the fire. Riddle & Hammerly represented Halsey.

MINN. GOV. DROPS DEAD

By United Press. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30.—A dispatch received here this morning says Governor Hammond of Minnesota dropped dead at Clinton in this state. The governor had business interests in Louisiana and had been inspecting land in the vicinity of Clinton. He was apparently in good health when he came south. He lived but a few moments after falling.

COLLECT INTERNAL REVENUE

War Tax Extended by Congress and Must Be Paid in January; Heavy Penalty for Failure to Make Returns

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 30.—Preparatory to the collection of the emergency tax which was extended by congress in the closing hours of the session before recessing for the Christmas holidays, the office of the United States collector of internal revenue is busily engaged addressing envelopes for the mailing of the forms to the taxpayers who have previously paid the tax and who thus appear on his records. He has not yet received his supply of blanks, but is expecting them daily, and will mail them out as fast as possible as soon as received. This tax affects all dealers in tobacco products, all theaters, pool halls, bowling alleys, brokers, commission merchants, commercial brokers, bankers and others enumerated in the law as in effect for the past year. The adhesive stamp tax feature of the law is also continued in effect as well as the provisions affecting long distance telephone messages.

The emergency tax or war tax, as it is better known, will be payable in January, 1916, covering the six-month period from January 1, 1915, to June 30, 1916. The law would have automatically expired by its own terms on Dec. 31, 1915, but congress just before adjourning for the holidays, renewed or extended the act without making any changes or alterations in it.

The collector states that all those liable to the emergency tax must have their sworn applications or returns filed in his office in the month of January; otherwise a fifty per cent penalty will attach. While he is working his office force overtime in getting ready to mail out blanks to taxpayers just as soon as he receives his supply from Washington, he warns taxpayers that if a blank is not received they must take the necessary steps to procure the blank forms so that they will have ample time to file same with him, accompanied by the payment, during the month of January. Upon application to his office, the necessary blanks will be furnished.

He further calls attention to the fact that the payment of the tax must accompany the return or application, and one without the other will not be accepted. It is of interest to note that he is not permitted, under the law and regulations, to accept a personal or firm check that is not certified. Payment of these taxes to Hubert L. Bolen, the collector of internal revenue, at Oklahoma City, Okla., must be made by certified check, bank draft, money order or cash.

GREEK LINER SAFE.

By United Press. NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Greek liner Thessalonica was only slightly damaged as a result of the storm which it encountered and is slowly proceeding to this port, according to wireless messages received today.

ONLY DEATH CAN SAVE HUERTA FROM COURT.

By United Press. SAN ANTONIO, Dec. 30.—District Attorney Camp says only death can prevent Huerta from going to trial for violation of the neutrality laws. It is reported that Huerta is suffering from a complication of diseases resulting from excessive drinking.

LAST DAYS OF SERBS IN MONASTIR

Stirring Scenes in City Before Fall; Arrival of Bulgarian Army Eagerly Awaited by Native Population

RULED WITH IRON HAND BY CAPTORS

Price of \$24 Per Head Put on Bulgarian Comitadj; Panic Due When Whistle of Single Train is Not Heard

NOTE.—The following story was written in Monastir by a United Press staff correspondent only a few days before the city was captured by the Bulgarians.—Ed.

By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD. U. P. staff correspondent. MONASTIR, Serbia, Nov. 15.—(By mail.)—This is the last seizable city in Serbia that has not fallen to the enemy. Will it fall? Monastir is waiting; another part has fled to Greece.

We've heard the guns booming, but how near the Bulgarians are we can't tell. No one is allowed to go toward the Bulgarian lines. If you want to go eastward or southward to Greece, the Serbian officials will gladly give your passport. All last night a train of ox carts, the Serbian army transports, creaked over the rough cobble stone streets.

"We have come from Perlepe," said the drivers, "with loads of hay and flour. We understand that we are to go back again for more." The Serbian army is up toward Perlepe fighting the Bulgarians back from this town that we are in and if the Serbians are moving hay and flour back to Monastir from their front, it looks as if they were getting ready to fall back to this point.

The creaking of these carts from Perlepe secretly gladdens more than one heart in Monastir. There are many Bulgarians in this town. Until the previous Balkan war three years ago, Monastir and all the southern part of present Serbia was part of Bulgaria. The Bulgarian and Serbian allies quarreled and the Serbians took Monastir.

Most of the people here speak Bulgarian, were educated in Bulgarian schools and the history they learned to consider most glorious is the history of Bulgaria. There are perhaps twenty Serbian families in Monastir. The population is 40,000. The rich Serbians have gone; the poor ones are ready to go. Let them but hear that the Bulgarians are near and they will fear their neighbors before the Bulgarian soldiers come.

The Serbians do not permit the Bulgarians here to have arms. There is a price of twenty-four dollars on the head of every Bulgarian comitadj, dead or alive, caught in Monastir. Within the last four weeks Dr. Luikhart of Philadelphia has conducted autopsies on fifteen men killed in Monastir. Every dead man was supposed to have been a Bulgarian comitadj.

The intrigues of the Rio Grande border are a simple as two times two compared with the complications of Bulgarian and Serbian comitadjism here. No one trusts anyone in Monastir. The few Serbian officials rule with an iron hand. Two weeks ago the Serbians ordered that any person who refused to change a ten-dinar paper bill when he could, should be taken before a court martial and tried for treason for hoarding silver.

There is a story that recently a Bulgarian merchant refused this change and that the would-be purchaser, so the story goes in the Bosnia coffee house, denounced him to the military, who searched the premises and found 1,500 silver dinars hidden away. Whereupon, so Monastir believes, the merchant was shot.

There's a touch of Mexicoism in the situation. In the markets you hear Spanish spoken at every turn by Jews whose forefathers were driven into Macedonia from Spain over 500 years ago. Huerta's paper money went as slowly in his last days in Mexico as

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