

PRESIDENT SUPPORTED BY CONGRESS

TEUTONS TO TRY TO CRUSH THE ALLY FORCES

Germans Are Expected to Join Bulgarians in Macedonia for Attack.

HIT WHILE IRON IS HOT

Will March Against British and French Soldiers Landed There Now.

Berlin, Dec. 7 (via London 3:07 p. m.)—The war office announced today that the French forces in southwestern Serbia near the Vardar river, have been compelled to retreat. The capture of Ipek, Montenegro, also is announced. The official statement on the Balkan operations is as follows:

Tents Capture Ipek.
"Balkans—The city of Ipek (Montenegro), about 15 miles from the Serbian border, has been reached. Some 1,250 prisoners were brought in.

"On account of a threatened envelopment of their positions in the Cerna-Karasi-Vardar salient, the French have been compelled to give up their positions there."

London Expects Attack.
London, Dec. 7 (11:51 a. m.)—The campaign against the main Serbian army having been closed, it is expected that the German forces in Macedonia will join the Bulgarians in an effort to crush the French and British armies before they become much stronger.

Information from Berlin indicates that the German forces engaged in the earlier movements in the Balkans have now been detached for the purpose of sharing in the attack on the Franco-British forces along the southern Macedonian front. Dispatches from Athens partially corroborate this theory, as it is reported two German divisions are cooperating with the Bulgarians near Strumitza.

There is little to report from the other fronts except the usual minor operations. The French, particularly, are carrying on an energetic bombardment of the German lines in the Champagne.

Turks Excite Interest.
In Mesopotamia the Germans are beginning to show considerable interest in the campaign which is developing in favor of the Turkish allies. It is reported from Geneva that the German under Field Marshal von der Goltz are preparing an extensive campaign which will be directed toward the Persian gulf by way of Bagdad.

Further impetus is given to peace talk by the papal consistory, at which Pope Benedict delivered an address calling on the belligerents to make a just and immediate peace.

The effect of the dismissal of the German military and naval attaches at Washington on the German public is not ascertainable yet, as the German newspapers have not been permitted to publish even the bare facts of the incident.

Campaign Is Nil.
Paris, Dec. 7, 4:30 a. m.—An Athens correspondent of the Figaro sends an interview which he had with M. Baloghitch, Serbian minister to Greece, concerning the Teutonic campaign in the Balkans. He quotes the minister as follows:

"The effects of the campaign are all the more rapidly will they exhaust themselves. The object of the Balkan undertaking was to strike the imagination and force peace. One of my neutral colleagues informed me that Germany had asked a powerful pacifist organization in his country to start a movement in favor of peace but that his government was opposed to the proceeding, knowing that it would be unfavorably received by England and France."

OTTUMWA WOMAN DIES AT CHURCH
Is Stricken With Apoplexy While Assisting in Forty Hours' Devotion Services.

Ottumwa, Iowa, Dec. 7.—Mrs. Nancy Lynch, a pioneer resident, was stricken with apoplexy while assisting at 40 hours' devotions in the Sacred Heart church Monday evening. She expired in the rectory within a few minutes after the stroke. One daughter, a teacher in the local schools, and another teaching in Chicago, survive her.



THE NEW PUPIL

THREE CITIES SEEK DEMO CONVENTION

Delegates of St. Louis, Dallas and Chicago Waging Contest for National Meet.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—With the meeting of the democratic national committee today the contesting delegates from St. Louis, Dallas and Chicago continued vigorously to urge the claims of their respective cities for the meeting of the national convention of 1916. There was some doubt as to when the committee would decide the time and place of holding the convention inasmuch as two contests will have to be settled before organization could be perfected.

New members entering the committee today were Vincent Miles of Arkansas; John T. Barnett of Colorado; W. W. Marsh of Iowa; Charles F. Johnson of Maine; Cordele Hull of Tennessee and Z. R. Cheney of Alaska.

Contests for seats from Kentucky and Oregon were among the first items of business before the committee. In Oregon W. H. Easterly contested the seat of William R. King. The Kentucky contest, involving General W. B. Haldeman of Louisville and Urey Woodson of Owensboro, was regarded with particular interest.

BUSINESS MEN AT MEET IN CHICAGO

Representative of Commercial Interests Seek to Discuss Practicability of Bill.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Four hundred representatives of middle western manufacturers and business interests are to attend a tariff conference held here today under the auspices of the Illinois Manufacturers' association.

The question of the practicability of the Simmons-Underwood schedule under conditions that will exist after the war is over will be discussed. Theodore Burton, former United States senator from Ohio, is scheduled to make an address.

BRIGAND BANDS ARE LOOTING PROPERTY

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 7.—Reports that a reign of outlawry in and around Durango and Torreon, Mexico, is in progress, were brought to Laredo by American passengers today from central Mexico. J. L. Carrollton, an American largely interested in Mexican mining properties, said organized bands of brigands were destroying property, looting ranches and other properties and robbing Americans and Mexicans.

THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and Vicinity.

Partly cloudy tonight. Wednesday generally fair, not much change in temperature with the lowest tonight above freezing.

Temperature at 7 a. m. 33. Highest yesterday, 36, lowest last night, 32. Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., 10 miles per hour.

Precipitation, none. Relative humidity at 7 p. m. 69 at 7 a. m. 67 at 1 p. m. today 70. Stage of water 6.3, no change in last 24 hours.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

Work Planned by the Illinois Congressmen

Washington, Dec. 7.—Legislation and measures to be urged by Illinois congressmen in the present session include:

Rainey—Repeal of the existing tax which prevents the mixture of wheat and corn flours; internal revenue legislation.

Wheeler—Increase in tariff schedules and repeal of special war taxes.

Poster—Greater safety for life in mines and mining; conservation of radium ores and government mineral, ore and oil lands.

Tavenner—Government manufacture of military supplies; enlargement of Rock Island arsenal; postoffice building at Carthage; enlargement of postoffice building at Rock Island; investigation of the Navy league.

Rodenberg—Improvements for East St. Louis and the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Copley—Refusing admission in interstate commerce to goods made in violation of child labor laws.

Madden—May inquire into Mr. Creadon's "juggling of debits and credits" which is reported to give the United States an \$85,000,000 treasury surplus.

Denison—A waterway commission to protect the northern counties of the Twenty-fifth district from the overflow of the Mississippi river and good roads legislation.

T. S. Williams—A large river appropriation, not only to make small streams navigable but to fortify the surrounding country of the Mississippi river from overflow.

TEUTONS REPORT TAKING FRENCH

Berlin, Dec. 7 (via London, 3:06 p. m.)—Capture of 250 metres of an advanced French trench in the Champagne district, east of Auberville, was announced by German army headquarters today. Sixty men were taken prisoners in this operation.

Regarding conditions on the western front the official statement says: "East of Auberville, in the Champagne, about 250 metres of an advanced French trench was taken. More than sixty men fell into our hands."

CZAR POSTPONES OPENING OF DUMA

Petrograd, Dec. 7 (via London, 7:41 a. m.)—Emperor Nicholas has issued a rescript postponing indefinitely the opening of the Duma and the council of the empire. This action is taken on the ground that the budget committees of those bodies have not yet completed the preparation of the budget.

A recent dispatch from Petrograd said the Duma would reassemble on Dec. 8. That body was prorogued on Sept. 16.

AEROPLANE ROUTE PROVES PUZZLING

How to Deal With Incoming Airships Baffles Customs Officials Along Coasts.

New York, Dec. 7.—Aeroplanes arriving here from foreign countries under their own power are not merchandise, but vessels, and should be entered as such at the custom house, according to a ruling by Dudley Field Malone, collector of the port, announced today. As the United States laws make no provision for this kind of a customs entry, it is understood Mr. Malone will consult with Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo concerning the advisability of amending the customs laws so as to make special provision for the entry of aeroplanes and for special inspectors to examine them when they arrive by the aerial route.

Canada Town Has \$300,000 Fire.
St. Catharines, Ont., Dec. 7.—Fire which started in the shifting room and spread with such rapidity that employees had but bare time to escape, did between \$300,000 and \$400,000 damage today to the plant of the Maple Leaf Milling company, flour manufacturers. The entire mill building was destroyed as were the cooper shops and stables.

THE WAR TODAY

German participation on a large scale in the Mesopotamia campaign is probable, according to reports reaching Switzerland. The naming of Field Marshal von der Goltz as commander of the Turkish forces in Mesopotamia is commented on in this connection.

In some quarters it is surmised that German efforts against the British in the east may be directed towards the Persian gulf rather than the Suez canal, as has been hinted.

The general war council of the entente allies is being continued in Paris under the presidency of General Joffre, French commander-in-chief.

An unconfirmed report that a Bulgarian infantry regiment mutilated when ordered to the Gallipoli peninsula to fight with the Turks has reached London through Amsterdam. Three hundred of the mutineers are said to have been shot.

Distrust of Greece continues to be expressed by the press of the entente powers, notably by French and Italian newspapers. More vigorous measures to induce Greece to comply with the allied demands are again being urged.

According to reports through Holland, the German lines in France and Belgium have been heavily reinforced within the past fortnight, it not being known, however, whether the move is made in view of a possible attack by the entente allies or for a German offensive movement.

The only activities on the French front reported by Paris comprised rather lively cannonading in the Champagne and a local engagement near Saint Souplet.

The assembling of the Russian duma, set for Dec. 18, has been indefinitely postponed by an imperial rescript. Petrograd advices say the action was taken on the ground that the preparation of the budget has not yet been completed. On the same ground sitting of the council of the empire has been postponed.

Many Violations of Drug Act.
Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—Scores of prosecutions for alleged violations of the Harrison drug act of 1914 regarding the traffic and use of opium depend on the outcome of arguments being today before the supreme court as to the scope of the law.

SAYS RECALL OF ATTACHES IS JUSTIFIED

In Reply to Bernstorff Demand for Explanation Secretary Sends Message.

CAUSED BY ACTIVITIES

Lansing Declares Von Papen and Boy-ed's Conduct Brought Action.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Secretary Lansing has replied to Germany that the American government's request for the withdrawal of Captain Boy-ed and Captain von Papen, the naval and military attaches, respectively, of the German embassy here, was entirely because of their military and naval activities.

Secretary Lansing's reply to the German government's inquiry, which indicated the Berlin foreign office intended to contest the withdrawal of the attaches under certain conditions, was delivered in a long communication which the German embassy immediately forwarded to Berlin. At the embassy all comment on it was refused.

President Wilson has fully approved Secretary Lansing's decision and it was said authoritatively today it would be adhered to no matter what Germany does.

Overnight advices from Berlin indicated that the German government would withdraw the officers as requested, although it might press for a bill of particulars. The position of the state department is that it will not discuss the facts in the case.

Still Investigating.
The department of justice is still investigating reports that German agents were back of alleged plans for a counter revolution in Mexico, to be headed by General Huerta. Attorney General Gregory said today, however, that no new information on the subject had been called to his attention recently.

One reason why the American government will not furnish Germany with specific reasons for the request for the recall of Captain Boy-ed and Captain von Papen is its determination to keep secret the sources of its information. Reports involving other men in this country are under investigation and these the government does desire to disclose until it is ready to take further action.

Berlin People Ignorant of Recall.
Berlin (via London 11:30 a. m., Dec. 7).—The request received here from the United States for the recall of Captain Franz von Papen and Captain Karl Boy-ed, military and naval attaches respectively of the German embassy at Washington, will undoubtedly be complied with in accordance with diplomatic usages, it is stated. However, Germany probably will ask first to be informed of the grounds on which the United States government bases the undesirability of the attaches.

News of the request for the recall has not been published yet by the German press.

The above dispatch is the first direct word to be received from Berlin in regard to the probable action of the German government in response to the request of the United States for (Continued on page eight.)

BERLIN LAUGHS AT FORD'S PEACE PARTY

Berlin, Dec. 7 (via London, 2:40 p. m.)—The German press in general treats the Ford peace mission only as a manifestation of American eccentricity.

On Board Steamship Oscar II, at Sea (by wireless via Sliscoast, Dec. 7).—Henry Ford, head of the party of peace advocates now enroute to Europe, has sent a wireless message to congress, asking support for his plans to end the European war.

Mexico Prohibits Opium Traffic.
Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 7.—The post-office department of Mexico has issued an order, according to advices received here today by the United States customs office, prohibiting transmission of opium in any form in the mails destined for the United States.

Fire Destroys Chemical Shop.
Williamstown, Mass., Dec. 7.—Fire early today destroyed the Thompson Chemical Laboratory of Williams college, with an estimated loss of \$100,000. The fire started in a workroom on the first floor, from spontaneous combustion.

Tossed Rich Spouse Over Cliff; Claim

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Confessing, according to George W. Armstrong, county prosecutor of Hennepin county, Minn., that he aided Frederick T. Price of Minneapolis in hurling Price's wife to her death over a cliff, Charles D. Etchison, a traveling salesman of Washington, D. C., is due in Minneapolis today to face legal action. Mrs. Price was killed Nov. 28, 1914, one day after she had been given \$50,000 by her father.

Etchison was arrested in Washington Sunday by operatives of a private detective agency and was brought to Chicago last night. Accompanying him was Mr. Armstrong, who announced the prisoner had confessed. Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 7.—"I deny it all. I swear it is not true," declared Frederick T. Price in a quaking voice when told in his cell at the county jail today of the confession of Charles D. Etchison that he aided Price in the murder of the latter's wife Nov. 28, 1914.

GREECE PLAYING FOR TIME, CHARGE

Paris, Dec. 7 (4:35 a. m.)—The Athens correspondent of the Matin, in a dispatch relative to the attitude of Greece toward the entente powers, says:

"The government is simply playing for time, hoping that the entente allies will be forced to the sea by the Austro-Germans and Bulgars. It will be found in a week or so that an agreement between the Greek and the allied staffs cannot be reached and that the government will declare that, notwithstanding Greece's traditional good will towards the entente powers, it cannot accede to their demands."

ILLINOIS CITY HIT BY EARTHQUAKE

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 7.—A severe earthquake shock, lasting 90 seconds, was felt here at 12:45 p. m. today. No damage was reported.

According to the weather bureau records the shock lasted 15 to 20 seconds.

Persons in all parts of the city ran into the streets. This was the second earth shock felt here since Feb. 18.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 7.—Earthquake shocks, extending over 16 minutes, beginning at 12:40 p. m., were recorded this afternoon on the seismograph of St. Louis university.

GREECE AND ENTENTE TO HOLD CONFERENCE

Athens, Dec. 6 (via Paris, Dec. 7, 12:35 p. m.)—An agreement for a conference of Greek military authorities and military representatives of the entente powers to examine into and report on the necessities of the situation respecting the allied demands on Greece has been reached and the preliminary steps toward holding the conference have been taken. Premier Skoufodis announced today.

HUNDREDS HAVE NARROW ESCAPE IN STORE BLAZE

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 7.—Christmas shoppers and sales girls fled in a panic when a swiftly spreading fire broke out today in the basement of the store building on the east side of the square, housing the Boston store, owned by Mac Pherson and Edwards. The entire stock, valued at \$150,000, was destroyed. It was partially covered by insurance. The building loss will be approximately \$60,000.

A number of the sales girls escaped from the second floor by jumping from the crowded platform of a fire escape. Bookkeepers of the firm said they had accounted for all the girls. One young woman, Johanna O'Brien, was declared to be missing by her sister, but was located in the street just as firemen wearing oxygen helmets were preparing to enter the building in search of her.

At noon, although still burning the flames were under control. One frame house in the restricted vice district had burned to the ground and several others were burning at 1 o'clock today. The energy of the entire fire department was concentrated on the fire in the Boston store. The Boston store fire was under control, but the authorities feared to call away any of the men or apparatus.

WILSON LAYS OUT PROGRAM ON DEFENSES

Annual Speech of President Greeted With Great Applause of Congressmen

OUTLINES HIS PLANS

Account of His Preparedness Ideas Holds Listeners Spellbound.

DAY IN CONGRESS.
Senate—Met at noon and then assembled with the house to hear President Wilson's message.
House—Met at noon and then received the senate in joint session.
House—Adjourned at 1:53 p. m. till noon Friday.

(The full text of President Wilson's message to congress is printed on the second page of this issue of The Argus.—Editor Argus.)

Washington, Dec. 7.—President Wilson in his annual address to congress today laid down the administration plans for national defense and told his hearers it was necessary for the new and broad doctrine of Pan-America.

With sharp words he arraigned American citizens who by their sympathy for the foreign belligerents had endangered the neutrality of the United States.

"America never witnessed anything like this before," declared the president with deep feeling.

Holds Attention.
The president's outline of the plans for national defense and the need for them was received in silence by the senators and representatives, but with rapt attention. His declaration of a new Pan-American doctrine was received with the deepest interest.

"From the first we have made common cause," he said, "with all partisans of liberty on this side of the sea and have deemed it as important that our neighbors should be free from all outside domination as that we ourselves should be; have set America aside as a whole for the uses of independent nations and political freedom."

This reference was greeted with prolonged applause and was received with great interest by the Latin-American diplomats who were present.

Broad Range of Subjects.
Outside of the main points of national defense and his reference to Pan-Americanism the president covered a broad range of subjects—the broadest he ever has included in an address to congress. They included the building of a merchant marine, the raising of revenue for the defense projects, a rural credit law, ultimate independence for the Philippines, conservation bills and a variety of measures left over from the last congress.

Applauded on Marine Idea.
When the president urged merchant marine legislation he was loudly applauded and was forced to stop when he said "It is high time we resumed our commercial independence on the high seas." Republicans clapped their hands vigorously when he said that "the task of building up an adequate merchant marine for American private capital must ultimately undertake and achieve, as it has undertaken and achieved every other like task amongst us in the past, with admirable enterprise, intelligence and vigor."

Hits at Foreigners.
When he referred to foreigners with (Continued on Page Nine.)

JAPAN PREMIER ADDRESSES DIET

Makes First Appearance Since Recovery from Operation—Praises Loyalty of People.

Tokio, Dec. 7, (2:30 p. m.)—Count Okuma, the Japanese premier, having recovered from the indisposition caused by an operation on his leg recently, addressed the diet today.

The premier dwelt on the universal spirit of loyalty and patriotism manifested by the Japanese people at the coronation of Emperor Yoshihito as a basis for further strengthening the solidity and prosperity of the imperial house and the empire. He emphasized the statement that the project for naval repletion which was ratified by the council of defense was the first necessity in the present situation of the world.