Descendant of Edmund Burke Talking to the French Commander Within Verdun

Miss Kathleen Burke, direct descendant of Edmund Burke, is now in the United States to raise funds for the Scotch hospital service. This photograph of her was taken when she was permitted to enter the beleagured city of Verdun and met General Nivelle, now the French commander of the north. She also saw General Petain there. During one week last July she interviewed both Generals Joffre and Castelnau.

NEITHER DEMOCRATS NOR REPUBLICANS WILL HAVE MAJORITY IN NEXT HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Revised figures on returns of the last election show definitely that neither democrats nor republicans will have a majority of the house necessary to elect a speaker, and that a handful of independents will determine which side will control the organization.

Conceding seats to candidates in possession of certificates of election, bcause they are certain to participate in the organization of the house, the personnel now stands: Republicans, 214; democrats, 213; independents, 2; progressives, 2; prohibitionists, 1; socialist, 1; contested, 2.

A majority is 218, hence should either democrats or republicans win both of the contests, they still will be short of a majority.

All of the independents are maintaining strict silence regarding their attitude on the speakership, but the democratic and republican leaders agreed on how most of them will vote, provided caucuses are held and solidarity maintained by the two old parties.

Kelly of Pennsylvania, a progressive, who formerly was a democratic member of the house, is listed as a democratic possibility.

So are Randall, prohibitionist, of California, and London of New York, socialist.

Schall of Minnesota, progressive, the leaders agreed, probably would lean toward a republican candidate if convinced of his progressivism. He campaigned for the national republican ticket during the last campaign, although opposed by the regular organization in his state. Fuller, independent, of Massachusetts, also is classed as a republican hope.

Martin of Louisiana, progressive, comes from a large sugar district in Louisiana and has indicated that assurance of protection of the sugar interests will be his first concern in voting on the organization. He formerly was a democrat.

Contests in which certificates have not been issued are on in the Thirty-second district, where Representative Barchfield, republican, is contesting the election of Guy E. Campbell, democrat, and the Third New Jersey district, where Representative Scully, democrat, is opposing the election of Robert Carson, republican. At least 20 seats, it is said, will be contested in the house after it is organized.

There is no question about the democrats voting solidly for Speaker Clark, but there are some signs of strife among the republicans. Representative Gardner already has announced his opposition to Representative Mann.

Representative Gardner, who announced yesterday that he would seek to obtain a republican conference to "formulate policies" for the future activity of the party in the house, did not visit the capitol today. Mr. Mann was there, however, and tonight he expressed the view that the republicans would stand united at least in the organization of the house.

"I have nothing to say about the speakership matter, or the Gardner episode," he said, "except that I still hope that the president through some way in God's providence may aid in bringing about peace which shall be lasting and permanent and provide for disarmament and the removal of the heavy burdens of military and naval preparedness and if I can in the slightest degree assist to bring about such a result I would rather do that than to be speaker.

"The charge of Mr. Gardner that I am for Prussia and Prussianism is of course utterly untrue. I am for America first, last and all the time and do not take sides in the European war. In Mr. Gardner's opinion that is my offense.

"In the end I think the republicans will have the good sense to all get together and act as a united party at least in the organization of the house."

Representative Lenroot of Wisconsin, whom Gardner will support for speaker, had no comment to make on the situation.

CARGO SPACE FOR ENGLAND

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, GREAT BRITAIN WILL USE NEARLY ALL ROOM ON STEAMERS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Lieut. Conner Guthrie, representing the British admiralty here, summoned freight managers of the British steamship companies to a conference today and told them that beginning Jan. 1 the British government would require 85 per cent. of the cargo space on their ships. Forty-seven and nine-tenths per cent. is to be reserved for war munitions and the remaining 37.1 per cent. for wheat.

During the greater part of this year the British government has reserved 60 per cent. of the space on the vessels flying its flags. December 15 Lieutenant Guthrie called a meeting of the freight managers and informed them that the government would require 70 per cent. of the space.

MERCURY TAKES A GREAT TUMBLE

All cold records for this winter were broken early yesterday morning when the mercury took a drop to 32 below zero, as recorded by the government thermometer. It remained extremely cold at 7 o'clock, being then 28 below zero, but a little later the temperature began to rise and at noon was bright, warm and comparatively comfortable, with the thermometer showing 12 above zero. Along toward evening the mercury began to fall again and at 9 o'clock last night registered 17 below zero. There was no wind and the weather did not seem to cause much discomfort.

PREPARES TO ATTACK

(Continued from Page One.)

tonight that a special messenger bearing a communication from the Mexican commissioners, presumably General Carranza's reply to the American demand that he approve or reject the protocol, had left New York for Washington. When the secretary retired for the night, however, the messenger had not arrived and word had come meantime that Mr. Cabrera himself would reach the capital tomorrow morning to explain personally General Carranza's position.

Although the United States had set last midnight the time before which a reply from General Carranza would be expected, it was indicated tonight that if the protocol is approved the delay will be overlooked, since the chief purpose has been to secure a satisfactory settlement. If the protocol is rejected, Secretary Lane will proceed with plans already under way to wind up the commission's affairs and adjourn sine die.

KILLED IN ACTION.

JUAREZ, Mex., Dec. 27.—Mayor Melchor Herrera received a message today from Mexico City telling him that his brother, General Luis Herrera, was killed in action at the battle of Torreon.

Mayor Herrera transmitted the news to his father, Jose de la Luz Herrera, who is making his home here.

ALARMED BY EXPLOSIONS.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 27.—Three explosions that sounded like cannon shots and seemed to come from the Mexican side, filled El Paso tonight with rumors of a Villa attack on Juarez, until it was learned that they were caused by molten slag escaping and flowing over wet ground at the smelter near here.

A local Mexican paper added to the excitement by issuing an extra at the same hour, proclaiming that a rebel army of 2,000 men was marching on Juarez. These men, commanded by Mariano Tamez, were about 15 miles from Juarez early this afternoon, it said.

Miss Gladys Woods spent Christmas with her parents at Becket, Mont.

GAINS IN WEALTH

National Banks in U. S. Show Marvelous Additions to Resources.

COMPTROLLER SAYS

Resources of National Banks Have Increased More Than Four Billion Dollars During the Past Two Years and Now Exceed by About a Billion the Total Resources of the Bank of England, the Bank of France, the Bank of Russia, the German Reichsbank, the Banks of Italy, Spain, Holland Denmark, Switzerland, Japan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Resources of national banks of the United States, Comptroller Williams announced tonight, have increased more than $4,000,000,000 during the past two years and now aggregate $15,520,000,000, exceeding by about $1,000,000,000 the total resources of the Bank of England, the Bank of France, the Bank of Russia, the German Reichsbank, the Bank of Italy, the Bank of Spain, the Bank of The Netherlands, the Bank of Denmark, the Swiss National bank and the Imperial bank of Japan combined.

In a statement based on returns from the last bank call, Nov. 17, the comptroller calls attention to the fact that the increase has been at the rate of approximately 18 per cent. a year during the past two years, as compared with 6 per cent. a year for the 10-year period from 1904 to 1914, and that the total resources are at present more than double what they were 10 years ago.

"The compilation just completed, of returns for the last bank call," the comptroller's statement reads, discloses a condition of strength, progress and growth beyond all precedent. The resources of national banks on the date of the last call are greater than the total resources of all reporting state banks, savings banks, private banks and loan and trust companies throughout the United States at the time of the inauguration of the federal reserve system, about two years ago.

"It is also noteworthy that the resources of our national banks at this time exceed by $231,000,000 the total resources of all the reporting banking institutions in the United States, including the state banks, savings banks and loan and trust companies and national banks as well as late as the year1904."

The greatest percentage of increase, the comptroller states, during the two-year period in which the federal reserve system has been in operation, was in the western states. Geographically the increase was as follows: New England, 22 per cent.; eastern states, 39 per cent.; southern states, 32 per cent.; middle western states, 31 per cent.; western states, 50 per cent.; Pacific states, 33 per cent.

"In this period," the statement says, "the New England and eastern states increased a total of $2,005,000,000, while the south and west, including the far west, increased $2,022,000,000.

"Between Sept. 12 and Nov. 7 (last two bank call dates), resources of the national banks of New England and eastern states increased $444,000,000. The increase in resources for the west and south for the same period was $664,000,000. The average increase over the whole country was 7.69 per cent."

MRS. HARMON IS HERE.

Mrs. Belle Harmon returned to the city from Seattle Saturday night and will spend the holidays here, returning to Seattle in a short time to resume her studies at the Seattle Bible training school. Mrs. Harmon has succeeded in completing one year's work in the few months she has been at the school and hopes to complete her course next May, when she will take up her church work here again.

Miss Vivian Cook returned yesterday from Brooks, where she visited for several days.

Need 3,000,000 Trained Soldiers, He Says

Major General Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, told the senate military committee the United States should have 1,500,000 men ready to take the field in case of attack, and that within 90 days, 1,500,000 more would be needed. In view of this lesson of the great war, he favored universal military training.

Wants Loan Bank For the Two Dakotas and Montana

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 27.—A Washington special to the Dispatch today says: Representative Helgeson of North Dakota, in whose district is located Fargo, St. Paul's closest competitor for the farm loan bank, expressed dissatisfaction over the boundary lines of the district of which St. Paul is to be the center. "In my judgment the two Dakotas and Montana should have been located in one district," said Mr. Helgeson. "They are in the spring wheat section and their interests are in many ways identical. While I presume it is too late to influence the board, nevertheless I intend to take it up with the board and see if a change cannot be made in the boundary lines."

IN HANDS OF A RECEIVER

NORTHERN IDAHO AND MONTANA POWER COMPANY UNABLE TO PAY OBLIGATION.

SPOKANE, Dec. 27.—By agreement of the company and its creditors, the Northern Idaho & Montana Power company, a $5,000,000 corporation operating public utilities in 35 towns and cities in Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, was placed in the hands of a receiver late today by United States District Judge Frank H. Rudkin. Elmer Dover of Tacoma was appointed receiver and B. H. Grosscup of Tacoma, counsel for the receiver.

The application for appointment of the receiver was made before Judge Rudkin here by Matthew A. Morrison of Chicago, who alleged that the company owed him $30,000 on a note and had outstanding mortgage bonds of $4,715,500 to pay the interest on which it has had to borrow money. In addition, it is alleged, other creditors hold notes totalling $182,000. The trustees under the mortgage bond and the Oregon Power company, which leases the Oregon plants from the parent company, also were made defendants to the suit.

In answering the complaint, the Northern Idaho & Montana Power company joined in the petition for the appointment of a receiver.

The receiver's bond was fixed at $50,000, which Mr. Dover filed immediately.

The principal towns served by the company, which owns and operates gas, electric light, water and telephone plants, are: Kalispell and White Fish, Mont., Newport, Wash., Sand Point, Idaho, Albany, Eugene, Corvallis and Marshfield, Ore.

Mr. Dover said tonight the company needed from $500,000 to $800,000 to make improvements and extentions and that although the company never had defaulted in interest payments, it had been compelled to borrow money to meet such payments and was unable to raise funds for betterments. The receivership, he said, was friendly and a reorganization plan would be worked out.

REPLY TO GERMANY

(Continued from Page One.)

nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war might be concluded," has been fully met by Germany in seeking an immediate conference with her enemies.

The German policy upon which the reply to President Wilson's communication is based, was outlined as follows:

Germany feels that the conference suggested by it first should be composed of delegates from the belligerent countries whose duty it would be to settle territorial terms. Once these terms are agreed upon, representatives of the neutrals should be called in to participate on the questions of guarantees for the future, in which neutrals are as vitally concerned as the belligerents. The guarantees, in the German view, necessarily will have to deal with the freedom of the seas, limited disarmament, formation of a world league of nations to enforce peace and the establishment of an international court of arbitration.

Germany is said to consider that neutral nations can have no interest of their own in terms such as those relating to territory.

While there were no official advices upon the subject the view still persisted in German quarters tonight that the note of the central powers might be followed by some highly confidential oral or written communication to President Wilson, in which at least broad tentative terms might be stated. In this connection officials noted with interest Berlin press dispatches saying that Ambassador Gerard, who, as a result of his recent visit to the United States, is thoroughly familiar with the views of President Wilson, had taken lunch with Alfred Zimmermann, the German foreign minister, and probably discussed the peace situation with him.

AUSTRIA'S VIEWS.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(2:03 a. m.)—A Reuter dispatch from Vienna by way of Amsterdam quotes some of the Austrian papers regarding the peace proposals. Commenting on Austria's reply to President Wilson, the Fremdenblatt says: "The central powers contemplate the possibility of the continuance of the war with full confidence, but feel they owe a duty to their people to do everything compatible with their justified interests and terminate the bloodshed, if at all possible."

WILSON 60 TODAY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—President Wilson will be 60 years old tomorrow. He intends to work as usual.

PROFFER OF PEACE

Czar Explains Why Germany Issued Proposals at This Time.

FEELS HER DEFEAT

Russian Emperor, in an Order of the Day to Russian Army, Says Germany Feels That Her Complete Defeat Is Near, and Adds That Time for Peace Has Not Yet Arrived—On War Front, the Net of Teutonic Allies Apparently Is Fast Closing in Upon Rumania's Oil and Grain Center on the Danube.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 27.—(Via London, 10:25 p. m.)—In the course of an order issued to all the units of the Russian army, dated Dec. 25, the emperor, in a brief review showing how the inequalities in the technical resources for warfare as between the allies and central powers are being gradually removed, with the result that the enemy strength is apparently waning, while that of Russia and her allies is constantly growing, says:

"Germany is feeling that her complete defeat is near, and near also is the hour of retribution for all her wrong doings and violations of the moral law. As in the time of her strength she declared war, so now feeling her weakness she suddenly offers to enter upon peace negotiations, desiring such negotiations before her military talent is exhausted.

"At the same time she is creating a false impression about the strength of her army by utilizing her temporary success over the Rumanians, who lack experience in the conduct of modern warfare."

Arguing that the allies are entitled to choose a favorable hour for peace negotiations, just as Germany chose a favorable hour for declaration of war, the order says:

"This time has not yet arrived. The enemy has not been driven out of the provinces he has occupied. Russia's attainment of the tasks created by the war regarding Constantinople and the Dardanelles as well as the creation of a free Poland from all three of her now incomplete tribal districts, has not yet been guaranteed. To conclude peace at this moment would mean failure to utilize the fruits of the untold trials of the heroic Russian troops and fleet. These trials and the still more sacred memory of those noble sons of Russia who have fallen on the battlefield do not permit of thought of peace until final victory over their enemies.

"Who dares to think that he who brought about war shall have power to conclude war at any time he likes?"

In conclusion the emperor, expressing confidence that no Russian soldier would desire peace until the enemy had been expelled from Russian soil and had given guarantees to prevent a possible repetition of a treacherous attack, says:

"Let us be firm in the certainty of our victory and the All-Highest will bless our standards and will cover them afresh with glory and give us peace worthy of your heroic deeds, my glorious troops—a peace for which future generations will bless your memory, which will be sacred to them."

ASSOCIATED PRESS RESUME.

The net of the Teutonic allies apparently is fast closing in upon Braila, Rumania's oil and grain center on the Danube. Having taken Filipechti, 30 miles to the southwest, Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops have now captured the railroad town of Rimnik-Sarat, relatively the same distance to the east, while the guns of the Dobrudja army are still hammering, and with some success, the Russo-Rumanians at the bridgehead of Matchin, on the east bank of the Danube near Braila.

Prior to the fall of Rimnik-Sarat the Teutonic allies defeated the Russians on a front of ten and half miles southwest of the town, while the Teutonic Danube army captured several fortified villages, according to the Berlin war office. Petrograd admits that the Russians and Rumanians have been forced to fall back north of Megura, but say elsewhere the invaders were defeated with heavy casualties.

Since December 22, says Berlin, more than 8,900 prisoners and 27 machine guns have been captured in Rumania.

Artillery duels, sapping operations and attacks by small patrol parties featured Wednesday's fighting on the front in France.

There have been sporadic battles at several points along the line in Russia and Galicia from Volhynia to the Carpathians, but no important results have been attained by either side.

The usual bombardment is in progress in the Austro-Italian theater. In Macedonia comparative quiet prevails.

The demobilization of the Greek army in accordance with Greece's promises to the entente allies is being carried out, according to information received at the British foreign office.

The Russian emperor, in an order of the day to the Russian army dealing with Germany's proffer of peace, asserts that the proffer was made because Germany feels that her complete defeat is near. The emperor added that the time for peace had not yet arrived and that he was confident no Russian soldier would desire peace until the invader had been driven from Russian soil and had given guarantees to prevent a possible repetition of a treacherous attack.

ROAST BEEF AT $7 A POUND FROM THE STOCK SHOW CHAMPION

When the grand champion steer, California Favorite, sold for $1.75 a pound as he stood in the ring, it meant a new record for the "cost of high living," nearly seven dollars a pound for the best cuts of this Christmas baby beef. Many cities bid, but Detroit will eat the beef.

Never before did a beef steer bring such a price, $1.50 a pound being the nearest approach to it. Boy victors of Iowa's Baby beef contests stood open-eyed while the bidding, started at 5 cents a pound, jumped up and up. The sale was made for the University of California by Clay, Robinson & Company in just nine minutes. Chicago packers bid high, but Mose Greenwald for a Detroit house added his defiant nickle after nickle by a nod until, "$1.75 a pound, sold," shouted the auctioneer. Wires went to the automobile city to prepare to parade the grand champion bought at a price of $1,960. For Christmas rib roasts that is a fabulous figure.

Not a kernel of corn had been fed to this California champion—no other grain than barley. In breeding it was a Hereford sire by a Shorthorn dam, stall fed by an Aberdonian herdsman, Alex McDonald. "The best calf ever shown on the continent," was the claim by the head of the victorious college after paying tribute to McDonald.

ENDS LIFE WITH DEADLY POISON

YOUNG MAN FROM AUGUST, ILL., TAKES STRYCHNINE AT A ROOMING HOUSE.

DEATH OF TUG WILSON, A RANCHER

Coroner G. R. Creel Tuesday evening completed a careful investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of a stranger, George Morton Moore, whose body was found Sunday in a room he had rented in a local rooming house, and the fact that it was a case of suicide was so clearly established that an inquest is not considered necessary. The decedent was about 25 years of age and was from Augusta, Ill., where his mother, Mrs. P. R. Steadman, resides. He left a note for her and among his effects was found a kodak photo of a young woman. On the back of this he had written: "This is the girl I wanted." An empty bottle that had contained strychnine was also found. The mother in Illinois was notified by telegraph and replied that she had no funds to expend for a funeral. The burial took place yesterday at the expense of the county.

Notice was received here Tuesday of the death at Grass Range of a man named Schwartz of pneumonia. The man was operated on last week for a badly ulcerated throat and this gave rise to the report that it was a case of diphtheria, but according to advices received Tuesday, it was not that dreaded disease.

PLENTY OF SNOW AT GRASS RANGE

The snow in the Grass Range country is even deeper than in the Lewistown section, according to Judge Edward Brassey, who has just returned to Lewistown after being snowbound in that thriving little town, where he went to eat his Christmas turkey. A special was sent out by the Milwaukee to bring in the Lewistown people, who were there, for Christmas day, as the regular train was detained up Roy way. The judge says that the track to Grass Range was open in good shape, but that the cuts were filled with snow that had been shoved off the tracks, so that with more drifting and snowfall, the situation might be serious, for the railroad man.

The shortage of coal is quite serious in Grass Range, but the abundance of wood nearby would tide the people over a continued cold spell.

The judge reports good business at Grass Range, with the town showing every indication of being a very lively place. Many visitors were there during the holidays on business, and the farming country nearby is thickly settled with a good class of people.

A BIG GAME.

The University of Pennsylvania will line up against the University of Oregon on the Pasadena, Cal., gridiron on New Year's day, and the fur should fly. Oregon has one of the best teams in the west this season, and Penn did well in the east. Coach Bennion of Bozeman will be an aide on the coaching staff at the big game, with the Penn transport. Keep an eye on the web footers.

Mrs. J. E. Lane and daughters, Edith and Newell, and Mrs. Caroline Baugher leave today for California. Mr. Lane will accompany the party as far as Butte. From there he will go to Helena.

CHILDREN SING ABOUT THE TREE

INTERESTING EXERCISES HELD AT COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE ON MAIN STREET.

SANTA CLAUS BRINGS MANY THINGS

Over one thousand children and many adults surrounded the community Christmas tree Saturday evening and sang glad anthems and partook of the general spirit of the occasion, despite the fact that the mercury registered ten below zero. The exercises started promptly at 7:30 and were over at 8, thus proving short and snappy as had been announced. It was snappy in more than one sense, for there were no summer zephers in evidence. However, the cold was braved, and the temperature did not seem to cool the ardor or enthusiasm of those in evidence. Altogether the affair proved to be the most successful of the kind ever held here.

Youngsters Made Happy.

The little ones were highly pleased. They were made happy. Therefore Lewistown's municipal Christmas tree for 1916 was all that could be asked for.

At the opening of the exercises, in charge of Miss Edith Foley, instructor of music in the city schools, who was in charge of the children and the musical numbers rendered, several hundred of the pupils from the fourth and eighth grades marched down Fifth avenue and turned on Main street, taking places alongside the tree. Captain Guest ably assisted Miss Foley, accompanying with the cornet.

Something for All.

After the singing proclaimed the gladsome tidings ushering in the Christmas observance in Lewistown, Tom Moore, driving a span of four horses hitched to a hay rack, which carried Santa Claus and members of the committee, sent more thrills of joy through the young people, by driving up to the tree and stopping, to permit Santa to distribute the good things for the little tots.

Twelve hundred packages of candy and nuts, as well as that number of apples were given to the children. There was a lively, but orderly and well behaved scramble to get the good things, and not a youngster was overlooked.

The Workers.

Miss Edith Foley gave personal attention to her part of the work last night. Rev. H. P. Crego was chairman of the committee recently appointed by the Chamber of Commerce for this purpose. The other members of the committee were: A. A. Franzke, Dan Bean, Father van den Broeck, C. L. Cavell, Mr. Petty, A. Rosenberg and E. K. Matson. The Palmer & Allen Electric company gave their services in decorating the tree. The very excellent Santa Claus proved to be none other than A. B. Lehman.

Could Not Get Tree.

The committee regretted its inability to get a larger tree. The one selected was ruined in the effort to load, as the needles and even many of the tender twigs and branches were broken off in handling the tree, so that it could not be used. This was due to the cold. After the first mishap to the selected tree the committee was unable to get anyone to get another. The Presbyterian church kindly donated its tree to the committee, and this was the tree used.

Thanks to Citizens.

The committee appreciates the generous assistance given in support of the municipal tree, and wishes to thank all cordially. The merchants and many others responded freely to the "good fellowship" appeal.

A marriage license has been issued to George M. Green of Jordan, Mont., and Myrtle L. Harrison of Evergreen, N. C.