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ANDERSON, S. C., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 19, 1914.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

MYSTERY SURROUNDS REPORTED DECISIVE GERMAN VICTORY

CLOUD OF UNCERTAINTY HANGS OVER OPERATIONS OF BELLIGERENT ARMIES IN POLAND

NO OFFICIAL REPORT ISSUED

From North Poland, Where German Victory is Said to Have Been Achieved.

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, Dec. 18.—Although there seems no doubt the Russians are retreating, and that for the present any expectations the Allies may have held of an early invasion of Germany must be dismissed, considerable mystery surrounds the reported decisive German victory which Berlin celebrated last night.

Vienna gives a few details of fighting in the east. The claim is made that the Russians have been driven from their positions north of the Carpathian mountains from Krosno to Zakliczyn, which would indicate that part of the southern line of railway in Galicia again is in the hands of the Austrians, and that Piotrkow and another central Poland town have been stormed, but silence is maintained as to north Poland, where the German victory is said to have been achieved.

The German official report dismisses this battle with the statement that "in Poland we are still pursuing the enemy, who continues to give way."

Amsterdam dispatches serve to heighten the confusion by quoting Berlin papers received there today as expressing disappointment as the fact that no names of battle fields are mentioned, that no tangible results of the fighting are disclosed and that no lists are given of the number of captured guns and prisoners. Some disappointment is expressed here at the silence of the Russians, and advices from Petrograd are awaited eagerly.

The Allies' offensive in the west continues to progress slowly, according to the Paris communication, although the aggregate gains claimed during the week indicate a considerable advance in Flanders and in the vicinity of Arras, where the Allies seemingly are making their greatest efforts in the belief that penetration of the German lines would compel a general German retreat. It is still, however, a matter of siege warfare in Belgium and France. Berlin says many of the attacks of the Allies are being repulsed with heavy casualties, which are increased when the Germans mine trenches which the Allies are compelled to evacuate.

The admiralty denies the German report that German ships which raided the east coast of England Wednesday sank two British destroyers, saying no British ships were lost.

In reply to a request from the corporations of Liverpool and West Hartlepool to investigate the raid, the admiralty has replied that this will not be necessary as the government is in possession of all the facts.

The coroners of the three bombardment towns still are holding inquests over the bodies of victims, the numbers of which continue to grow as injured persons succumb to their wounds.

As a result of the bombardment the kingdom has been flooded with posters reading: "Avenge Scarborough! Up and at 'em now!"

CONSIDERING STATE OF COAST DEFENCES

Special Board of Army Officers Holding Session—Proceedings Are Secret.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Headed by Assistant Secretary Breckinridge, a special board of army officers has been in session at the war department for several days considering the state of coast defenses of the country, and particularly the military situation in the canal zone.

Proceedings of the board are secret, but the fact that it is sitting became known tonight. It is expected that it will recommend improvements of coast defenses, probably based in some measure on developments in the siege operations in the European war.

Major General William W. Witherspoon, recently retired as chief of staff, was present at today's meeting.

Electrocuted.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 18.—Arthur Hodges, 21 years old, was electrocuted today in the penitentiary. He was the first white man to die in this manner in Arkansas. Hodges was convicted of the murder of a constable.

Anarchy Cause of War.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—International anarchy is the cause of the European war, according to Dr. John Mez, of the University of Munich, president of the International Society of Students, who made an address here today.

Allies Have Advanced.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—(3:51 a. m.)—A Times correspondent in northern France, under date of Thursday, says:

"The Allies have advanced. Their troops are reported to have passed Middelkerke and to have broken through the German line just below Dixmude."

Court Annuls Conviction.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—(7:15 p. m.)—Nicholas Ablers, sentenced December 10 to death on a treason charge, will be freed. The court of criminal appeal today annulled his conviction on the ground that the evidence did not show his action in aiding German reservists to reach their country was hostile to England's interests.

Surrendered to Carranza Forces

(By Associated Press.)
SAN ANTONIO, Dec. 18.—San Luis Potosi, one of the largest cities in Mexico, has been surrendered to Carranza forces, according to advices received tonight by representatives of General Carranza here. General Samuel De Los Santos and the San Luis Potosi garrison of several thousand men have sworn allegiance to Carranza, the dispatch declares.

Meat in America Will Be a Rarity

(By Associated Press.)
CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—"Meat in America will be a rarity before the war ends, with its drain on our supply," said Henry J. Williamson, statistician in the department of agriculture, today. He has been in the west visiting stock centers.

"Unless scientific breeding for increase in general and the slaughter of calves ceases, before five years have expired America will find herself in the class of European countries that have to import beef," continued Mr. Williamson.

COLUMBIA NEXT MEETING PLACE

(By Associated Press.)
ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 18.—Establishment of a "marketing agent" in every State, "who will instruct farmers in the scientific marketing of their crops" was advocated by Judge E. R. Kose, Texas commissioner of agriculture, in an address to the final session of the annual meeting of the Association of Agricultural Commissioners of the Southern States here today. Judge Kose said that "the most important work of a State department of agriculture lies in teaching farmers how to profitably market their crops."

J. D. Price, agricultural commissioner of Georgia, was elected president of the organization and G. W. Koler, commissioner of agriculture of Virginia, secretary. Columbia, S. C., was selected as next year's meeting place. Sessions of the association, extending over two days were executive.

EGYPT FREE FROM CONSTANTINOPLE IN GOOD SHAPE FINANCIALLY

A BRITISH PROTECTORATE OVER EGYPT HAS BEEN DECLARED

FIRE SALUTE OF 101 GUNS

Prince Hussein Kemal Has Been Appointed Sultan and Has Accepted.

(By Associated Press.)
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The French government has recognized the British protectorate over Egypt, in which France formerly had such important interests, and in return Great Britain has given notice that it adheres to the Franco-Moroccan treaty of 1912, which gave France a protectorate over Morocco.

In a letter addressed to Prince Hussein on his appointment, the British acting high commissioner for Egypt, Milpe Cheetham, details the efforts which he says England made to avoid war with Turkey, but which were frustrated by the war party and the Ottoman cabinet.

In inviting Prince Hussein to accept the office as "the prince of the family of Mehemet Ali, most worthy to occupy the khalid position with the title and style of Sultan of Egypt," Mr. Cheetham announces that Great Britain accepts all responsibilities for defense of the territories under the new sultan, that all Egyptian subjects will be entitled to protection by Great Britain, that with the disappearance of Ottoman suzerainty the restrictions placed by Turkey upon the numbers and organization of the army will disappear, that the relations with foreign powers will be conducted by a British representative in Cairo, and that the religious convictions of the Egyptian subjects will be respected scrupulously.

In connection with his letter the commission in a statement tonight says that in declaring Egypt free from obedience to Constantinople, Great Britain has been animated by no hostility toward the Caliphate, and that in any movement to strengthen and improve the Mahometan institution the new sultan will have the government's support. The promise is made that after the war treaties will be revised and that "in such measure as the degree of enlightenment of public opinion may permit" the government will be associated with the task of government.

In all garrisoned towns a salute of 101 guns was fired and the Union Jack was hoisted.

The official press bureau made this announcement:

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DRAMATIC SCENE IN COURT ROOM

BULLETS FALL IN U. S. TERRITORY

Five Strike Near Shelters Built by United States Troops on Border.

(By Associated Press.)
NACO, Ariz., Dec. 18.—Five bullets from the Mexican fighting around Naco, Sonora, struck today near shelters built by United States troops on United States territory.

Plank camps east and west of Naco, Ariz., were established today by the American troops. The sixth brigade of infantry and three batteries of artillery en route are expected here tomorrow. Ammunition arrived today.

Intermittent firing on the Mexican side continued all day. Hill's Carranza troops, defending Naco, seemed to be doing most of the shooting.

George C. Carothers, special agent of the American state department, arrived today at the camp of the besiegers. He went into conference with Governor Maytorena.

Carothers broached the subject of the coming visit of Brigadier General Hugh L. Scott at the international boundary.

After returning to the American side Carothers talked with Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss and then left for El Paso, Texas. He probably will rejoin General Villa.

Troops Arrive.
DOUGLAS, Ariz., Dec. 18.—The third battalion of the sixth brigade, on route from Texas City to Naco, arrived here late today. Eight more train bearing troops are expected tomorrow.

MAILED MONEY TO LOUISVILLE

Believed the \$13,500 Obtained by Automobile Bandit Was Shipped by Parcel Post.

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A coroner's jury late today returned a verdict that Jones came to his death at the hands of "unknown parties."

ONE PASSENGER KILLED; SEVERAL WOUNDED

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RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 18.—Southern Railway passenger train No. 13, southbound, which left Richmond this morning, was derailed this afternoon about 3 o'clock at Jetersville in Amelia county while backing into a siding. One passenger was killed and about a dozen others wounded, some fatally, however. The dead man is C. J. Agee, of Richmond, a car officer on the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad.

WAR OF WORDS IN THE HOUSE

PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE COMMITTEE END ABRUPTLY

MEETING ENDS IN AN UPROAR

The Committee Will Meet Monday to Complete Naval Appropriation Bill.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Public hearings before the house naval committee ended today in an uproar when Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, a witness, demanded that committee members say whether they questioned data he had submitted to prove the nation's military unpreparedness.

Mr. Gardner's insistence so angered Representative Witherspoon, of Mississippi, that he quit the committee room. A series of questions put immediately afterwards by Representative Gray, of Indiana, aroused Mr. Gardner's resentment and the meeting broke up abruptly.

Representative Gardner vigorously resented what he said was an imputation that his campaign for investigation of the military situation was in the interest of manufacturers of war materials. He called upon Mr. Gray, who was questioning him, to "get up and prove his facts," but the latter had nothing further to say, and the chairman declared the hearing ended.

The committee will meet Monday to complete the naval appropriation bill, the plan being to report it, if possible, before the holidays.

Mr. Gardner's statements today were based largely on the testimony of the admirals and others before the committee, and reports of the navy general board. The war of words came after the witness had finished the statement and submitted to a long cross examination. Mr. Gardner said he did not want his statements challenged later in congress and sought an immediate expression from the committee members.

Representative Witherspoon declared sharply at the request "is outrageous."

"I move that the hearings be closed," said the Mississippi representative. "I am tired of this outrage."

Chairman Padgett asked him to withdraw the motion but he persisted, and when Mr. Gardner renewed his request for an expression of opinion, left the room.

"Did you write any letter to any mercantile organizations or the country?" asked Mr. Gray when quiet had been restored.

"I hired a man to send out a printed letter to every chamber of commerce in the land, telling them to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR.)

OPTIMISTIC REPORT OF FRANCE'S FINANCIAL SITUATION MADE

1915 BUDGET IS EXPLAINED

She Can Regard Without Anxiety Prospect of Prolongation of Hostilities.

(By Associated Press.)
PARIS, Dec. 18.—An optimistic report of the condition of the treasury and of the general financial situation in France was made to the appropriations committee of the chamber of deputies today by M. Ribot, minister of finance. The minister declared the nation's financial reserves were such that "she can regard without anxiety the prospect of prolongation of hostilities."

M. Ribot appeared to explain the 1915 budget. He told the committee that the government had advanced to other countries these sums: To Belgium, 250,000,000 francs (\$50,000,000); to Serbia, 90,000,000 francs; Greece, 20,100,000 francs; The Bank of Montenegro, 500,000 francs.

The treasury on September 1 had in circulation 427,000,000 francs of treasury bonds. This was increased before the end of November to 940,000,000 francs, the total authorized under the government's decree of October 1. However, the government on December 3 authorized an increase to a total of 1,400,000,000 francs. The total of national defence is subscribed for now exceeds 1,000,000,000 francs.

The finance minister explained that the Bank of France advanced to the government for mobilization expenses 2,900,000,000 francs. The Bank of Algeria advanced 100,000,000 francs. This proved insufficient and in September the government called upon the Bank of France to increase its advances to an ultimate total of six billion francs.

M. Ribot pointed out that the gold holdings of the Bank on December 10 were slightly in excess of the amount held just before the beginning of the war, which was 4,141,241,563 francs. Efforts are being made to increase this stock. M. Ribot also called attention to the comparatively small increase in note circulation, which in the last two months and a half had expanded only 687,000,000 francs.

The magnitude of current accounts indicate popular confidence in the Bank of France, M. Ribot said. The notes of the Bank of France, he also pointed out, are standing at par abroad, while the notes of her enemies have depreciated considerably.

TRAINS ARRIVE

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HOUSE IN TURMOIL OVER DEFEAT OF RULE

Legislative, Executive and Judicial Bill Passed After Less Than Three Days Consideration.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—With its machinery at high speed the house today turned out the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and began consideration of the post-office appropriation bill.

The legislative, executive and judicial bill, carrying \$36,000,000 was passed after less than three days actual consideration. Provisions for an agricultural census to cost \$2,250,000, and a proposal to reduce members mileage from 50 to 5 cents a mile were stricken out.

Postmaster General Burleson's plans for departmental charges were blocked when the house voted down a special rule to make in order new legislation reducing the pay of postmasters, revising the railway pay system, authorizing experimental substitution of contracts for the salaries rural carrier system in one county of each State and providing for organization changes. The rule was defeated, 148 to 131, many Democrats opposing it.

Chairman Moon, of the postoffice committee, criticized Democrats who voted against the rule, asserting that "railway influence has been hard at work to defeat provisions of this bill revising the railway pay system." He declared the defeat of the rule was a "betrayal of Democratic principles and a betrayal of the Democratic administration by the minority on the floor."

Representative Henry interrupted to assert that the only opposition to the rule in the rules committee was exerted by railroad interests.

"Name them," shouted Republican Leader Mann.

The house was in turmoil for a few moments and when the tumult subsided Representative Henry shouted: "I can name them. I say here and now that the railroad interests tried to defeat this bill in the rules committee."

ALLOWED THE FLAT 5 PER CENT. INCREASE WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR 4 YEARS

WILSON PLEASSED OVER DECISION

Expected it to Have an Immediate Effect on Country's Economic Situation.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Further increases in freight rates were granted to the eastern railroads today by the interstate commerce commission in a decision from which Chairman Harlan and Commissioner Clements dissented vigorously.

Except on lake and rail traffic coal, coke, iron ore and certain other traffic, upon which the commission heretofore has fixed rates adjudicated "reasonable," all railroads operating in the territory between the Atlantic seaboard and the Mississippi north of the Potomac and Ohio rivers were allowed the flat 5 per cent. increase for which they have been asking for four years.

The railroads hoped to get increases which would add to the annual revenues some \$50,000,000. The commission's decision is expected to give them additional revenue, approximating \$30,000,000.

The roads east of a north and south line drawn through Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Charleston, W. Va., won by today's decision the increase other than upon the traffic east of this line, which was denied them in the commission's decision last August. The roads west of this line, which got partial advances in the August decision, received further advances; so that now all the roads in what is described as official classification territory will enjoy uniform advances in both class and commodity rates.

The majority of the commission held that the roads had established in the latest hearings a greater need of additional income than ever before. This was due, the decision held, to exigencies arising out of the war and to an already existing necessity for additional revenues to maintain railroad properties.

Chairman Harlan, in his dissenting opinion, held that sufficient aid had been given the roads by the August decision and that the findings of the majority were "morally wrong." Commissioner Clements based his dissent upon what he regarded as the inability, in law, of the commission to take cognizance of anything in the making of rates other than their justice and reasonableness.

In administration circles the outcome of the case was welcomed as of vast importance. President Wilson issued no formal statement but the White House officials said he was greatly pleased over the decision and expected it to have an immediate effect upon the country's economic situation. The president had made no secret of his belief that improvement of conditions generally was dependent to an extent at least upon additional revenue being provided in some way for the railroads.

Traffic on which no increase was allowed represents about 55 per cent. of the entire volume of freight handled by the roads. Coal, coke and iron ore, however, are bulky commodities, taking lower rates, consequently the

(Continued on page four.)

NOMINATION IS REJECTED

Recess Appointment of Kansas City, Mo., Postmaster Opposed by Senator Reed.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The nomination of W. N. Collins, as postmaster at Kansas City, Mo., a recess appointment, was rejected by the senate today. Senator Reed, of Missouri, opposed confirmation.

Early this week the senate refused to confirm J. D. Lynn, whose nomination to be district attorney for western New York, was opposed by Senator O'Gorman. Some senators maintain that none of the president's recess appointments will be confirmed if they are objectionable to senators from the States involved, and they also hold that such "recess" should operate to prevent recess appointees from holding office. The president, however, is said to have maintained that Mr. Lynn should hold office until March 4 under the recess appointment despite rejection of the nomination.

INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES GRANTED EASTERN RAILROADS

KILLS 15-YEAR-OLD WIFE

(By Associated Press.)

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The couple had only been married five months. Before her marriage Mrs. Newton was Miss Ola May Ford.

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