

GREAT BATTLE AT CRACOW

Germans Assume Control and Plan to Drive Off Besieging Russians.

Forces of Dual Alliance Meet With Success in Galicia and Poland, While Austrians Are Repulsed With Great Loss by Servians—Turks Defeat Russians at Batoum—Reported That Dresden Has Interned at Santa Cruz, Argentina—While Transport and Cruiser Have Been Sent to Bottom—Reports Show Little Change in West—Kaiser Much Better and Confers With Chancellor.

Crown Prince Called to Berlin.
Paris, Dec. 11.—The Echo de Paris states that Crown Prince Frederick William was urgently recalled from the German army headquarters in Belgium to Berlin Tuesday night.

A See-Saw Conflict.

Paris, Dec. 11.—The official statement this afternoon says: Strengthened by reinforcements, in the attempt to pierce the allies' battle line in the region of Ypres, the Germans have assumed a fierce offensive. Three attacks were repulsed but in another the Germans captured one of the allies' trenches. The French are making satisfactory progress at Arras and Juvincourt. In the Argonne the French are pushing forward with their trenches. The French also continue to advance in La Pretre forest. South of Thann the French have captured the railroad station at Aspach. Never before in the history of the world has there been massed such an enormous amount of heavy artillery as there is now along the three hundred mile battle front from the Vosges to the North sea. Over ten thousand big guns, exclusive of light artillery and flying squadrons of field guns are thundering death and destruction at the enemy day and night.

Austrians Have Winning Streak.
Vienna, (Official), Dec. 11.—Up to the present the Austrians have taken ten thousand Russian prisoners in Western Galicia, but stubborn fighting continues. In Poland we are steadily repulsing the enemy. At some points the Russians have been driven back 20 miles.

Germans Make Gains.
Berlin, (Official), Dec. 11.—The Germans have made no progress in Flanders but east and west of the Argonne the allies' artillery positions have been attacked with good results.

German Submarine Sunk.
London, Dec. 11.—A news dispatch from Dover states that in the attack by German submarines yesterday one submarine was sunk, possibly more. The attack was repulsed and the German flotilla was pursued by British destroyers. It is believed that there were six submarines in the flotilla. No damage was done, but Dover was thrown into a panic.

British Capture Staden.
Rotterdam, Dec. 11.—A dispatch from Stuis states that the British troops have captured the town of Staden, fourteen miles north of Ypres.

Struggle to Relieve Cracow.

Petrograd, Dec. 11.—The Germans have assumed complete control of the Austrian and German armies south of Cracow, where the biggest battle of the war seems to be developing. Enemy is trying to hurl the Russians back and relieve Cracow where the Russians are establishing a siege. A Russian victory means a long sweep toward Vienna. The weather is bitter cold, with heavy snow. The Russians inflicted heavy losses on the German and Austrian infantry in the Lososina valley and on the line north of Cracow.

Germans Winning at Lowicz.

Berlin, Dec. 11.—Fierce hand to hand fighting has been in progress at Lowicz, Poland, for fourteen hours. The Germans are in complete control of the outskirts of the city. Following the German successes north of the Vistula the Germans are closing in on Warsaw.

Dresden Escapes Destruction.

Montevideo, Dec. 11.—The German cruiser Dresden is reported to have taken refuge in the Argentine port of Santa Cruz, badly damaged and will probably be interned until the end of the war.

Kaiser Improving Rapidly.

Amsterdam, Dec. 11.—A news dispatch from Berlin states that the Kaiser's condition has so greatly improved that he was permitted to confer with the imperial chancellor last night. His fever has disappeared and the bronchial catarrh has improved. Reports that he was suffering with pneumonia are untrue.

Turks Score Victory.

Constantinople, Dec. 11.—A Russian

force which was trying to relieve Batoum has been repulsed by Turkish troops.

Servians Mop up Austrians.
Paris, Dec. 11.—A news dispatch from Nish states that the Austrian losses in Serbia are nearly sixty thousand. The Servians are again within five miles of Belgrade. They expect to recapture the capital.

German Transport Sunk.
Valparaiso, Dec. 11.—A merchant-ship arriving at Concepcion last night reported that they had intercepted a wireless message stating that the German transport Prinzseitel Frederick had been sunk by a Japanese warship.

German Cruiser Strikes Mine.
Paris, Dec. 11.—The German cruiser Frederick Kart is reported sunk in the Baltic sea by a mine and most of the crew drowned. The ship carried five hundred and fifty men. (Official.)

CONSTERNATION AT DOVER AT RASH ACT OF GERMANS.

Fusillade of Big Guns Firing Greeted One Diver Seen Coming in Under Cover of Darkness—Six Seen Later.
Dover, England, Dec. 10 (via London).—Dover was thrown into excitement today by the announcement that the Germans early this morning attempted a submarine attack on the harbor works and the fleet at anchor in the harbor.

The night was dark and a heavy rain and haze made searchlight work difficult. The forts were put on alert about 4 o'clock by the appearance off the harbor entrance of an unknown steamer which refused to stop until a shot was fired across her bow. This vessel then retired. She is believed to have been the tender of the submarines.

Half an hour later a single submarine was sighted and one of the heavy guns in the harbor fired at her. This submarine, which evidently was the advance scout, disappeared but at 6.30 the observers sighted what they believed to be a fleet of about six several miles out in the channel.

The channel forts commenced firing in the direction of the supposed submarines and kept it up for almost half an hour. At the same time a torpedo boat destroyed flotilla put to sea, where it remained all day.

Large crowds gathered on the water front in the early morning hours and watched the searchlights and the artillery fire. When they saw no results of the shelling many persons expressed the opinion that it was a false alarm.

There is no official confirmation that German submarines were seen.

NEW LAW ON WAREHOUSEMEN.

Requires That Surety Company Bonds Shall be Given Secretary of State.

Columbia, Dec. 11.—R. M. McCown, secretary of State, has called attention to a special act passed at the extra session of the general assembly providing for bonds for public warehousemen. "Few people in the State know anything about the law, it seems," said the secretary.

The section referred to follows: "Every person or corporation so authorized under the preceding section (section 2582, code of 1912 to become a public warehouseman shall give bond in a surety company authorized to do business in South Carolina, in an amount equal to 10 per cent. of the estimated value of the goods for which said warehouseman will provide storage; such bond to be conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of a public warehouseman and to be given to the secretary of State, who shall cause a copy of the same to be filed with the clerk of court in each county in which such warehouseman proposes to maintain a warehouse."

The secretary said that few inquiries had been made concerning the new law and that no bonds have been filed. The old law, he said, required the bonds to be filed with the clerks of court.

Johnson City, Tenn., Dec. 11.—The large ice manufacturing plant was burned this morning, loss hundred thousand dollars.

NEED SHIPS TO CARRY COTTON

McLAURIN COMMENTS ON DEMAND FOR MERCHANT VESSELS.

English Paper Says Staple Could Be Sent to Moscow Over Pacific Ocean.

Columbia, Dec. 11.—Commenting yesterday on the pressing need for ships to carry cotton to European ports, John J. McLaurin, State cotton warehouse commissioner, said that the war was forcing the development of new functions of government.

"The need for ships to export cotton was evidenced last Wednesday in the New Orleans exchange, when brokers bid \$15 a bale freight to Bremen," said Mr. McLaurin. "I also notice in The Textile Mercury, published in Manchester, England, that cotton is selling in Russia at 31 cents a pound. The article says that American cotton can be shipped to Moscow by way of Siberia. The great demand now is for ships to carry cotton to Germany. There are many German merchant ships tied up in American ports. It was reported in New York that a proposition had been submitted by Bernard N. Baker of Baltimore to President Wilson looking to the purchase of these ships.

"Mr. Baker's idea is that, instead of being purchased by the government, money be loaned by the government to private parties with which the ships would be bought," continued Mr. McLaurin. "England would be sure to object to this, as the German government owns a part interest in these ships. The only practical plan is for the United States government to buy these ships itself, as the bill now before congress provides. Congress is also about to provide marine insurance. Certainly this war is developing new functions of government on every hand. It is but a step from the buying of ships to carry cotton and the insuring of it by congress to purchasing the cotton itself."

STIR IN WALTERBORO.

Town is Excited by Report of Yeggmen in Vicinity.

Walterboro, Dec. 10.—Quite a sensation was stirred up last night in Walterboro when one John Land, alias Walter Williams, was arrested here. He told of a gang of supposed yeggmen who had established themselves near Walterboro and were making plans to rob the banks of the town. He being a stranger here himself, the story was given some credence and heavy watches were maintained last night.

This morning he told practically the same story, still maintaining that there are yeggmen near Walterboro planning a large raid. He connects with yeggmen a man who came here some time ago with the avowed purpose of opening a moving picture show but who has since disappeared.

Land's story of himself is interesting. He says that he served a three-year sentence in the penitentiary beginning in 1910, for being a pick-pocket in Columbia, and this is verified by the penitentiary officials by long distance. He came here seeking employment and began to run a pressing club. He claims to have relatives in Savannah and Williston.

Although a search has been made, the alleged yeggmen have not been found as yet and, with no charges pending here against Land, he will be released on condition that he leave town at once.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MASS MEETING.

The regular annual mass meeting of Sunday schools was held yesterday afternoon at the Presbyterian Church and the annual offering for the poor taken up. The former officers were re-elected with Miss Gibson, the city nurse, added to the distributing committee. It was decided on account of the inclement weather and the very small attendance to continue the meeting until next Sunday afternoon so that others who had been prevented from attending yesterday, might be given an opportunity of coming to the meeting. Another meeting will therefore be held at the Presbyterian Church on next Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The annual collection with donations from various lodges and private subscriptions amounted to more than \$480. Messrs. W. S. Jones and Barlow Walsh were elected as chairmen of the distributing committee, with Mr. A. M. Broughton in his capacity as treasurer and secretary and Miss Gibson in an advisory capacity. The names of the committee from the various Sunday schools were announced and other routine business attended to.

Mr. H. L. McCoy of the Broad Street Methodist Church presided and Rev. J. B. Wilson made the annual address, showing how much more blessed it is to give than to receive. The program was executed as previously announced.

BIGGEST COTTON CROP EVER.

MORE THAN SIXTEEN MILLION BALES RAISED THIS YEAR.

United States Will Have 15,966,000 Bales of Lint and 600,000 of Linters From 1914 Crop.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The United States this year has produced the greatest crop of cotton in its history. More than 16,000,000 bales, or 15,966,000 bales of lint cotton and linter cotton, unofficially estimated at from 600,000 to 650,000 bales, constitute the crop.

Last year 14,323,367 bales including linters were produced and in the previous record year, 1911, the production was 16,250,276 bales, including linters.

The production of lint is estimated at 7,637,113,000 pounds or 600,000 pounds more than 1911.

While the production exceeds any crop ever grown, its value will be far less and smaller than any other year during the past five.

Based on the average price of 6.8 cents a pound on December 1, the lint is worth \$519,323,684, while last year it was valued at \$887,160,000.

More exact information as to the size of this year's cotton crop was given today when the department of agriculture in its final estimate announced the total production would amount to 15,966,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight, exclusive of linters. This compares with 14,156,496 bales last year and 14,795,367 bales in 1912 and 14,312,745, including linters; and 15,692,701 bales in the record year 1911 and 16,250,276 including linters.

The average total production, exclusive of linters for five years, 1908-12, was 12,850,297 bales. The production of linters is about 600,000 bales annually.

The final official figures giving the exact size of this year's crop will be issued by the census bureau next March when complete statistics from the ginneries have been compiled.

While this year's crop is a large one its value will fall far below that of last year, because of the price of cotton. Last year's crop, a record in point of value, was worth in the aggregate \$1,042,760,000, the value of the lint being \$887,160,000 and of the cotton seed \$156,600,000.

The estimated production, with comparisons, by States follows:

States	1914.	1913.	1908-1912
Virginia	24,000	23,490	18,205
N. Caro.	950,000	792,545	779,037
S. C.	1,500,000	1,377,814	1,252,981
Georgia	2,650,000	2,316,601	2,009,514
Florida	75,000	58,695	62,239
Ala.	1,690,000	1,495,485	1,324,624
Miss.	1,275,000	1,310,743	1,250,361
Lon.	360,000	443,821	345,978
Texas	4,560,000	3,944,970	3,704,668
Ark.	1,040,000	1,072,846	859,793
Tenn.	345,000	379,471	329,869
Missouri	75,000	67,105	63,836
Okla.	1,250,000	840,387	840,422
California	37,000		
Other Sts.	15,000	32,513	8,610

WILL PROTECT AMERICANS.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Secretary of State Bryan today received a cablegram from Provisional President Gutierrez of Mexico announcing: "Action has been taken to prevent further violation of the rights of Americans at Naco by Mexicans across the border."

HELP FOR THE RAILROADS.

Washington, Dec. 11.—A report believed to be reliable, states that the Interstate Commerce Commission is writing an opinion granting the eastern railroads a five per cent. increase in freight rates.

HAPPY WOMEN.

Plenty of Them in Sumter and Good Reason for It.

Wouldn't any woman be happy, After years of backache suffering, Days of misery, nights of unrest, The distress of urinary troubles, When she finds freedom.

Many readers will profit by the following.

Mrs. H. P. Jenkinson, Church St., Manning, S. C., says: "I was annoyed by kidney complaint and pains through the small of my back. Doan's Kidney Pills helped me wonderfully, not only relieving the misery in my back, but strengthening my kidneys. You may use my endorsement at any time."

The above is not an isolated case. Mrs. Jenkinson is only one of many in this vicinity who have gratefully endorsed Doan's. If your back aches—if your kidneys bother you, don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—ask distinctly for Doan's Kidney Pills, the same that Mrs. Jenkinson had. 50c. all stores. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

In a Few Days

Members of our 1914 Savings Club, will receive checks for \$50 (and interest) and up. They only paid a dollar a week. It's an easy way to save. Come and join for 1915, NOW—TO-DAY, while you think of it.

The Peoples' Bank The Place to Save At

YOU PAY IN ONLY FIFTY WEEKS.

OVER \$17,151.⁶⁶

Will Be Paid to Members of

The Bank of Sumter's 1914 Xmas Savings Club

Wednesday, Dec. 16th.

- In 1913 we had 431 members.
- In 1914 we had 999 members.
- How many shall we have in the

Larger and Better Club for 1915

WHICH IS NOW FORMING?

- SMALL PAYMENTS.
- NO FEES.
- NO FINES.
- NO TROUBLE.

Come in and see us about it; First payment makes you a member. A large check just before Christmas is like finding money.

The Bank of Sumter

DECEMBER 7, 1914

The National Bank of South Carolina

RESOURCES \$800,000.00

4% compounded quarterly in our Savings Dept.
5% on Time Certificates of Deposit.
Strong, conservative, progressive.
We appreciate our old friends, and are continually seeking new ones. We want your account.

C. G. Rowland, Pres. G. L. Warren, Cashier

THIS BANK

Is a Member of the Federal Reserve Banking System of the United States.

THE soundness and ability of the bank and the CHARACTER OF THE MEN behind that bank are investigated before the United States Government will allow a bank to become a member of the Federal Reserve System. Once a member of the Federal Reserve System a bank is one of the VAST ARMY of responsible banks which STAND TOGETHER for each other's protection; and the U. S. Government at Washington, D. C., through its representatives on each Federal Reserve Bank Board supervises and assists all member banks.

Your money is absolutely safe in our bank and YOU CAN GET IT WHEN YOU WANT IT.

The First National Bank

OF SUMTER. Capital, Surplus and Profits Nearly - - \$230,000.00

New Corn Mill

I have installed an electrically driven corn mill of the most improved pattern, and am prepared to do grinding for the public. This mill turns out meal and grits of the best quality.

N. G. Osteen, Jr. BROAD STREET, SUMTER, S. C.