

## RUSSIANS MAKE FRESH STAND

Muscovites to Fight For East Prussia and Bukowina.

### ROUT BY GERMANS DENIED

Heavy Artillery Operations in the West, During Which Rheims Has Suffered—Financial Plans of the Allied Powers.

London.—Two big battles, it is believed, have already begun or will soon begin on the Russian side of the East Prussian frontier and on the River Sereth, in Bukowina.

The Russian forces have withdrawn both in East Prussia and in Bukowina, in the face of superior German and Austrian armies, so that they might be enabled to concentrate and come into closer touch with their lines of communication.

The official reports make only the briefest reference to the operations at these two extremes of the Eastern front, but what they do say indicates that the Russians have already reached the lines on which Grand Duke Nicholas has decided to give battle.

Other Events Overshadowed. The rest of the campaign in the East, even the fighting in the Carpathians, which is proceeding under the worst weather conditions, is overshadowed by these greater events, on the result of which both sides are staking so much.

The Germans claim to have won a big victory over the Russians in East Prussia, and the Austrians announce the Russian retirement in Bukowina with elation, but apparently Petrograd views these incidents with misgiving.

In the West there has been a continuation of heavy artillery bombardments, in which Rheims has again suffered, and several infantry attacks on different parts of the line in which both sides claim to have been successful.

From unofficial sources comes the news that St. Mihiel, on the Meuse, which the Germans have held so long, has come under fire of the French guns, which shows that the French have either made an advance in this region or have brought up heavier guns in an effort to dislodge the Germans.

### CAPTIVE TURKS NUMBER 49,000.

#### Petrograd Reports 527 Officers in Number.

London.—Forty-nine thousand Turkish prisoners, including 527 officers, have passed through Pysatigorsk, in the Territory of Terek, Ciscaucasia, en route to the interior, since the war with Turkey began, according to the Petrograd correspondent of Reuter's Telegram Company. The same dispatch says that George T. Mayre, Ambassador from the United States to Russia, today formally communicated to the Russian Foreign Office the German declaration of intention to blockade the British Isles.

### 953,207 GERMAN LOSSES.

#### Capt. F. B. Nelson, U. S. A., Brings Figures of Casualty Lists.

New York.—That it will require four Allies to one German to dislodge the latter from their fortified positions in France and Belgium is the opinion of Capt. F. B. Nelson, First United States Infantry, who just returned from Germany by way of the steamer Nieu Amsterdam from Rotterdam. Captain Nelson brought the latest figures of casualties in the German Army. He stated that up to January 31 the losses had totaled 953,207 in killed, wounded and missing.

### MAY VOTE ANYWHERE.

#### Texas Has Plan To Guarantee Suffrage To Traveling Men.

Austin, Texas.—The House of Representatives voted favorably on a resolution submitting a constitutional amendment, which, if adopted, will permit traveling men and railroad men to vote in State and national elections wherever they may be in Texas on election day.

### \$126,000,000 BILL PASSED.

#### Sundry Civil Service Measure is Adopted; Pensions Pending.

Washington.—The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill carrying \$126,000,000 was passed in the House. Debate was begun on the pension bill carrying \$165,000,000.

### CELEBRATE 100 YEARS PEACE.

#### Ratification Of Ghent Treaty Being Commemorated Today.

New York.—Sunday being the nearest to the date of the ratification of the treaty of Ghent, celebration services over the completion of a century of peace between the United States and the British Empire was held in nearly 100,000 places of worship in the United States and Canada, the American Peace Centenary Committee announced.

## AIRMEN RAID BELGIAN COAST

Bombs Dropped By British Aviators at Ostend.

### RAILWAY LINES DAMAGED

The Attack, Launched From Dunkirk, Directed Against German Submarine Bases.

The British Admiralty's statement on the raid is as follows: "Combined aeroplane and seaplane operations have been carried out by the naval wing in the Bruges, Zeebrugge, Blankenberghe and Ostend districts, with a view to preventing the development of submarine bases and establishments. Thirty-four naval aeroplanes and seaplanes took part.

"Great damage is reported to have been done to the Ostend railway station, which, according to present information, has probably been burned to the ground. The railway station at Blankenberghe was damaged and the railway lines were torn up in many places.

"Bombs were dropped on gun positions at Middelkerke, and also on the power station and the German mine-sweeping vessels at Zeebrugge, but the damage done is unknown.

#### Grahame-White in Sea.

"During the attack the machines encountered heavy banks of snow. No submarines were seen.

"Flight Commander Grahame-White fell into the sea off Neuport and was rescued by a French vessel. Although exposed to a heavy gun fire from rifles, anti-aircraft guns, machine guns, etc., all of the pilots are safe. Two machines were damaged.

"The seaplanes and aeroplanes were under the command of Wing Commander Samson, assisted by Wing Commander Longmore and Squadron Commanders Porte, Courtney and Rathorne."

#### Started From Dunkirk.

Paris.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Dunkirk says:

"Thirty British aeroplanes left here to fly over Zeebrugge and Ostend. A biplane fell into the sea in the Zuid-coote Channel, suffering severe damage. It was towed with its aviator into Dunkirk by a British gunboat.

"A proposed German air raid over Dunkirk was defeated by the British aviators."

"Five French aviators dropped bombs on the German military aerodrome at Habsheim, an Alsatian town in the outskirts of Muelhausen."

### GERMANS LOSE 40,000.

#### The French Say the Germans Have Failed in Poland.

Paris.—An official statement given out at the War Office announced the complete failure of the German offensive in Poland. The statement follows:

"The failure of recent attacks by the Germans in Poland appears to be complete. The losses of the Germans are unprecedented. It is reported that they exceed 40,000 dead.

"Cold and the frequent use of dense formations are among the causes given for the losses of the Germans. An eye-witness of the battle declares that machine guns mowed down the ranks of the enemy like a steel blade.

"When the combat ended the Russians saw hills of dead before them. At night, under the glare of searchlights, the undulating mass of wounded made efforts to extricate themselves. Then, towards 2 o'clock in the morning, they moved no more."

### 'PHONE TO 'FRISCO IN SERVICE.

#### National Anthem Heard Across the Continent.

Philadelphia.—Telephonic communication between Philadelphia and San Francisco was formally inaugurated Thursday over the Bell system by three taps on the Liberty Bell, the sound of which over the wire was the signal to a bugler in the Far Western city to play "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The strains of the national anthem were distinctly and clearly heard by 200 persons who held receivers to their ears in this city.

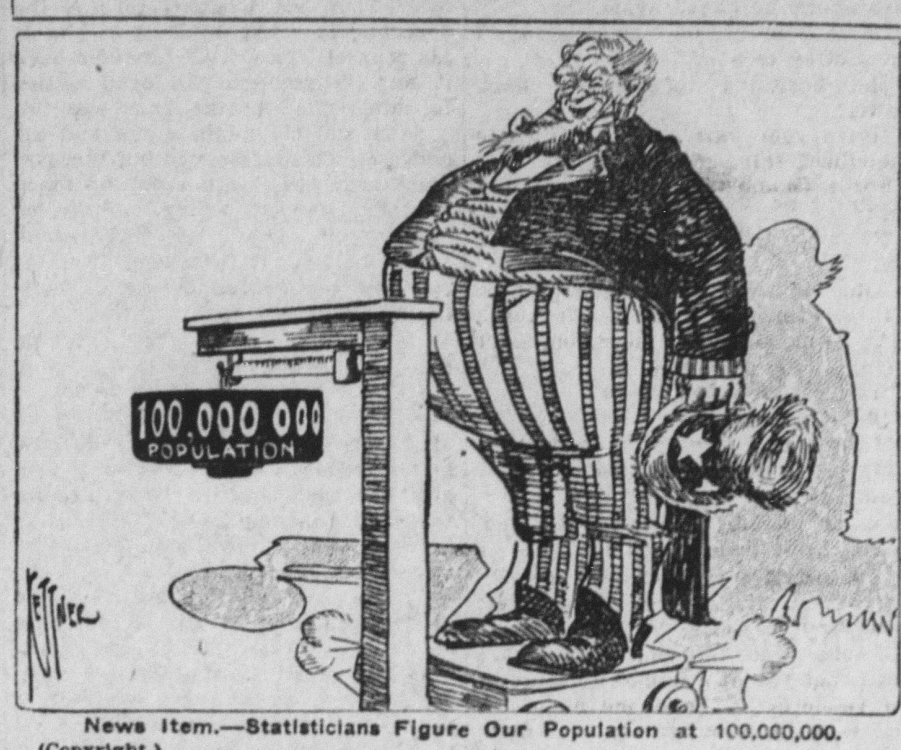
Mayor Rolph, in San Francisco, speaking to Mayor Blankenburg here, urged the Philadelphian to send the Liberty Bell to the Panama-Pacific Exposition, and Mr. Blankenburg promised to do all he could to give the people of the country an opportunity to see the historic relic.

### JOHN L. WILLIAMS DEAD.

#### Father Of Comptroller Of Currency J. Skelton Williams.

Richmond, Va.—John Longbourne Williams, father of John Skelton Williams, Comptroller of the Currency, and R. Lancaster Williams, of the banking firm of Middendorf, Williams & Co., of Baltimore, died at his home here. Mr. Williams was 84 years of age. He was taken ill several months ago and for the last 10 days his life had been despaired of.

## GROWING



News Item.—Statisticians Figure Our Population at 100,000,000. (Copyright.)

## AMERICANS MUST NOT SUFFER AT SEA

United States Warns Both England and Germany.

### FROWNS ON USE OF FLAG

England Notified That This Country Objects To Having Its Flag Used As a Shield Because Our Own Ships Are Thereby Imperiled—Germany Is Warned Against Committing Any Violations.

Washington, D. C.—Notes sent to Great Britain and Germany and made public by the State Department, indicate the possibility of a crisis in the efforts of the United States government to maintain neutrality toward the European belligerents.

In its note to Great Britain on the deceptive use by British vessels of the American flag, the State Department says:

"The government of the United States therefore trusts that his Majesty's government will do all in their power to restrain vessels of British nationality from the deceptive use of the flag of the United States in the sea area defined in the German declaration, since such practice would greatly endanger the vessels of a friendly power navigating those waters, and would even seem to impose upon the government of Great Britain a measure of responsibility for the loss of American lives and vessels in case of an attack by a German naval force."

Sharp Warning to Germany. In the note to Germany the German government is informed that the United States would consider it "an indefensible violation of neutral rights" if commanders of German vessels of war should act upon the presumption that the flag of the United States was not being used in good faith and should destroy on the high seas an American vessel or the lives of American citizens.

Then this warning is given to Germany: "If such a deplorable situation should arise, the Imperial German government can readily appreciate that the government of the United States would be constrained to hold the Imperial German government to a strict accountability for such acts of their naval authorities and to take any steps it might be necessary to take to safeguard American lives and property and to secure to American citizens the full enjoyment of their acknowledged rights on the high seas."

England Expected To Give In. The reply of Great Britain is not expected to raise an issue between the two governments, because it is generally regarded as inconceivable that Great Britain should seek to maintain the right of her vessels to use the flag of the United States despite the United States protest. And if Great Britain concedes that the deceptive use of the American flag is wrong, she must, in the opinion of State Department officials, express her regret that justifiable cause of complaint has been given and pledge herself to do all that she can to avoid such cause of offense and danger in the future.

But it is admitted that the reply which Germany will make to this government's representations will be awaited with some concern.

If Germany shall refuse to recede from her position that neutral vessels in entering the sea war zone which she has declared do so at their own risk, it is admitted that a very serious situation will be presented.

In that case the United States would be confronted with the alternative either of warning its merchant vessels to keep out of the declared war zone or run the risk of a disaster which would inflame public sentiment in this country.

It is evident from the American note that the government does not intend to warn its vessels to keep out of the war zone, no matter what Germany's attitude may be, but will insist upon their right to traverse the declared zone without danger of attack.

If attack should be threatened through the position which Germany will take, then the question would arise as to what steps the United States should take to insure the safe voyage of its merchant vessels.

The expert opinion is that in such circumstances the United States would be forced to furnish a naval convoy for all United States merchant vessels which entered the declared sea war zone.

Neutrality Situation Changes. The taking of American war vessels into the war zone undoubtedly would be a grave step, but in no other way could the safe passage of American merchant vessels be assured.

The neutrality situation appears to have undergone a complete change. Heretofore the situation has been that partisans of both Germany and Great Britain have been complaining that the United States was not maintaining a strict neutrality.

Now the United States government is officially representing to both Great Britain and Germany that their practices and declarations are interfering with the neutral rights of the United States in such manner as may shake the strict neutrality which the United States is anxious to maintain.

ASKED TO EXPLAIN. Germany and the Complaint Made By Minister Vanduyke Of Interference With Letters.

Washington, D. C.—The United States has sent an inquiry to Germany on the complaint of American Minister Vanduyke, at The Hague, that German military commanders were interfering with his diplomatic communications with Luxembourg.

A report that some of his mail had been held up by German military authorities reached the State Department from Dr. Van Dyke, Secretary Bryan said. Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, was instructed to make representations to the German Foreign Office.

## GERMANS HURL RUSSIANS BACK

Conflict Second Severe Defeat at Mazurian Lakes.

### KAISER WATCHES VICTORY

Autocratic Allies Also Gain On Lower Vistula, Taking Town Of Sierpiec, North Of Warsaw.

London.—All eyes now are turned upon East Prussia, where the German Army, under the observation, if not the command, of Emperor William, has taken the offensive and compelled the Russians to evacuate their positions east of the Mazurian Lakes and retire to their own territory.

The Russians refer to this as a strategic retirement, but the German official communication intimates that the appearance in this district of a new, strong German force was a surprise to the Russians and that the Germans captured 26,000 prisoners, 20 cannon and 30 machine guns in addition to a lot of war material.

Second Defeat in Same Region. If the German statement is correct the Russian reverse apparently is almost as serious as that which the Muscovite forces suffered in the same place early in the war.

Before the German official communication was received in London, military men were inclined to look upon the Russian retirement as a wise move, declaring that it would compel the Germans to fight the battle on Russian territory and away from their strategic railways. The army which the Germans flung so suddenly into East Prussia is believed to have numbered 200,000 men and to have been made up of soldiers who have been fighting on the Bzura and western fronts and of units of the new army which has just completed training in Central Germany.

Gains Also On Vistula. The Germans have resumed the offensive in Russian Poland on the right bank of the lower Vistula, and have occupied the town of Sierpiec, which lies a short distance to the northwest of Plock. Thus the chief battle ground in the east has been transferred from the lines west and southwest of Warsaw to the north.

The battles in the Carpathian mountains continue, but the general staff of neither of the contending forces gives much information concerning the fighting.

A CANADIAN SCARE. Reported Plot To Destroy Bridges and Elevators Of The Grand Trunk Railway.

Portland, Me.—A large force of police and watchmen stationed at the elevators, docks and coal pockets of the Grand Trunk Railway, was increased substantially, in consequence of a reported plot to destroy the railroad's property here and its principal bridges between this city and the Canadian boundary.

Word received from the company's general offices at Montreal asserted that the alleged plot was evolved in California, and that six men were bound here to carry it out.

FANNY CROSBY DEAD. Blind Hymn Writer Continued Work Almost To The Last—Came Of Long-Lived Family.

Bridgeport, Conn.—Fanny Crosby, well-known hymn writer, died at her home in her 85th year. Her death was not unexpected, as her health had been failing for some time. Shortly before the end she became unconscious. At her bedside were her niece, Mrs. Henry D. Booth, and other members of the family, with whom she long had made her home. In spite of feeble health, especially within the past few months, Miss Crosby continued writing hymns up to a short time before her death.

BANKER AND WIFE MURDERED. First Bound and Then Beaten To Death By Robbers.

Oakland, Cal.—Jacob Vogel, former president of the Citizens' Bank of Fruitvale, and his wife were found murdered in their home in Fruitvale, a suburb. They had been beaten to death by burglars, who first trussed them up with ropes and Mrs. Vogel's apron strings.

CROSSED CANAL, TURKS SAY. Vanguard To Wait Till Main Force Can Attack.

Constantinople, via London.—Turkish army headquarters has issued an official announcement which refers to the "successful reconnoitering march" of the Turkish forces on Egypt. It says that some companies of Turkish infantry crossed the Suez Canal. "Our vanguard will keep in touch with the enemy and continue reconnoitering the east bank of the canal."

SAMUEL T. PICKARD DEAD. He Was Literary Executor Of John Greenleaf Whittier.

Amesbury, Mass.—Samuel T. Pickard, biographer and literary executor of John Greenleaf Whittier, the poet, died at the Whittier Homestead, aged 87 years. His wife, who was a niece of the poet, died several years ago. Mr. Pickard was formerly owner and editor of the Portland Transcript.

BOMBS FALL ON ADRIANOPLE. Mytelene Tells Of English and French Airmen Over Thrace.

Mitylene, via Paris.—Several English and French seaplanes flew over Turkish Thrace, according to a dispatch from Tenedos. Two of the machines went as far as Adrianople, dropping bombs on the forts. The Turks are said to have been unprepared for a bombardment, as they did not expect allied aircraft to venture so far inland.

## KEYSTONE STATE IN SHORT ORDER

Latest News Happenings Gathered From Here and There.

### TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS

While coasting on one of the streets of Hazleton, Francis Galagher, a four-year-old boy, was instantly killed by an automobile truck.

The Pennsylvania Associated Dailies held a meeting at Reading to arrange for combating legislation prejudicial to the newspaper interests likely to come up at this session.

While on the way home from school, six-year-old Franklin Roderick, of Northampton, fell from the wagon on which he was stealing a ride, and was probably fatally hurt when a rear wheel passed over his head and body.

A fifteen-ton steam roller, owned by the Main Line Stone Company, broke through the bridge over Darby Creek on the Chester and Radnor Road, at Broomall. Tony Spidella, the engineer, was injured.

The Pennsylvania Steel Company has started another open hearth furnace at Steelton, making seven at work. This is the largest number in many months and 4,000 men are employed in the plant.

Robert Ploor, a merchant of Mountainville, was going home after business in town, when his auto truck was struck by a train. The truck was overturned, and Ploor and Tracy Crozier, his assistant, were badly bruised.

Steelton Serbians were barred from a Croatian Church because they carried their flag in a parade. The Croats and Serbians forgot the far-off war for the day and celebrated an anniversary together until the flag incident arose.

After suffering for several years from the effects of sunstroke sustained in India while on a trip around the world, Thomas J. Koch, a leading merchant of Allentown, died in the Allentown Hospital, aged fifty-six.

The officials of the Berks County Prison will try to compel the Philadelphia & Reading and the Pennsylvania Railroad Companies to pay something toward the cost of maintaining prisoners sent to jail at the instance of railroad detectives on the charge of illegal car riding.

Ex-Governor Edwin S. Stuart has a namesake in a little daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Millar, of Harrisburg. Mr. Millar was secretary to the former Governor and is now secretary to the Public Service Commission. The little girl was named Sydney Stuart Millar.

Miss Emma Cunningham was killed and her sister, Ettie, suffered a broken arm, when a sleigh in which they were driving from Huntingdon to their home in Hartlog Valley, crashed into a telephone pole, after their horse had run away. A broken shaft frightened the animal. The dead girl suffered a fracture of the neck.

Harry N. Atwood, the aviator, who gained distinction by a flight from St. Louis to New York and afterwards by his airship courtship of Miss Ruth Satterthwaite, a Reading young woman, whom he afterwards married, arrived in Reading and announced his intention of establishing there an aeronautic research institute, the only one of its kind in the country.

An attempt to liberate twenty prisoners in the jail at Chambersburg was frustrated. Frank Keckler and Clarence Wallace, awaiting transfer to the Eastern Penitentiary for robbery, are declared to have been the ringleaders, with Howard Wingerd, who was taken to the Huntingdon Reformatory, after pleading guilty to highway robbery.

Mrs. Sallie Yelk, wife of Daniel K. Yelk, a prosperous farmer, of Gibraltar, was instantly killed and her three-year-old daughter, Nora, probably fatally injured, when a southbound Pennsylvania Railroad freight train struck them at a crossing near their home. Mother and daughter were returning to their home after an inspection of a bungalow, which was erected by the father along the banks of the Allegheny Creek, some distance away.

At a meeting of half a hundred farmers of Berks county, held at the headquarters of the Chamber of Commerce, Reading, the Berks Produce Exchange was made a permanent organization by election of the following directors: H. H. Rupp, Robeson; N. H. Fisher, Muhlberg; Orlando F. Berger, Upper Bern; F. L. Wanner, Washington; John C. Klinesmith, Exeter; J. G. Engleman, Robeson; Irvin Miller, Centre; W. F. From, Spring; George H. Robber, Richland; E. S. Merkel, Windsor; and Earl Sheble, Richmond. The directors will elect officers on February 25.