



GERMAN LINE FLUNG BACK BY ADVANCE ON ROULERS

Flanders' Town Menaced by Furious Drive From Ypres — Vigorous Offensive on River Somme Makes Notable Progress Toward Peronne

German Guns Wrecked by Heavy Bombardment and Trench Lines Taken by Infantry Attack — Dixmude Reported Evacuated by Invaders — 100th Day of Great Battle.

Reports from the Franco-Belgian battle line indicate that, from the sea to the River Somme, the Allies' offensive is being pressed steadily and that some important gains have been made at strategic points.

Further south, in the vicinity of Lens, the Allies announce important gains, their lines being now but 2 1/2 miles northwest of that town.

The capture of trenches from the Allies and the taking of a number of prisoners near La Bassée is reported in today's official report from Berlin.

The great battle in France and Belgium, which began as the Battle of the Aisne, has now been in progress just 100 days without any decisive advantage having been gained by either side.

Pounding at the Russian centre in the north.

Concluded on Page Four

THE WEATHER CLOUDY

Goeh, what a day! How in the world can one be peaceful on earth and practice good will to men when one is stopping around the office on a pair of spigons tied to each foot and with the back of one's collar like a wet bath towel.

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity: Cloudy and unsettled tonight, followed by fair and colder Tuesday; moderate variable winds becoming fresh westerly.

Table with weather observations and forecasts for Philadelphia, including temperature, wind, and humidity data.

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS

FRENCH During the day of December 20 there was nothing important to report in Belgium except some progress in the vicinity of Lons-lez-Tourneai, St. Georges and to the southeast of Kortrijk (east of the city of Ghent).

Between the Lys and the Aisne we captured a forest near the road of St. Nicolas-Sous-Bois and occupied also all the first line of the German trenches between that road and the first houses of Notre Dame de Lorette (southwest of Louvain).

The enemy's machine guns were silenced by our heavy artillery and the German trenches were captured in several combats. To the north of Carney (east of Albert) it was the German trenches and overthrew two pieces of a battery placed near Hom (southeast of Carney).

Between the Argonne and the Meuse we have made progress on all the front, notably in the region of Variennes, where we have advanced 200 metres beyond the heights and in the region of St. Gilles, north of the right bank of the Meuse we have gained ground upon the heights two kilometres (1 1/2 miles), west of Brabant and in the forest of Consenvoye.

French attacks at Nieuport were repulsed yesterday. They were also repulsed between the canal and La Bassée. We attacked the positions of the Anglo-Indian troops. We stormed and captured their trenches and dislodged them from their positions with heavy losses.

We captured one cannon, five machine guns, two mine throwers and 27 English and Indian prisoners, including 10 officers. The trenches which were lost to the enemy on December 18 near Notre Dame de Lorette, were recaptured. In the neighborhood of St. Gilles, northeast of Chalons, the French attacked fiercely yesterday, and in one place penetrated as far as the outer trench. The attack broke down under our fire. We captured four French officers and 30 men. A large number of dead Frenchmen were left lying in front of our positions.

In the Argonne we captured an important wooded hill at Four-de-Paris, taking three machine guns, one revolver gun and 23 prisoners. Pierce French attacks northeast of Verdun failed completely.

In East and West Prussia the situation is unchanged. In Poland we continue to make attacks against the enemy's positions. In the Carpathians the enemy's advanced troops in the district of the Latorca (in northern Hungary, north of Munkacs) were repulsed yesterday. To the northwest of Lupkow Pass (east of the Dnieper) a great battle is developing. Our attack on the front, comprising Krono and Zaklitsyn (in Galicia, between Cracow and Przemyśl), has been successful every where. In the Biała Valley our troops have advanced to Tuchow (south of Tarnow). The battle along the lower Dniester (southwest of Tarnow) continues.

The Russians recently appeared with strong forces in Galicia. In south Poland they have reached the Suda River.

RUSSIAN On the left bank of the Vistula, on the front of the Bura and Rawa Rivers, a number of encounters, some of them of a very fierce description, took place on the 18th instant.

Two German companies which crossed the Bura, near the village of Dakhova, on a half-burned bridge were immediately attacked by our troops and annihilated.

Of this force only 50 men remained. These we made prisoners. Fighting also is reported in the region of Opoczno, 35 miles to the east of Piotrkow.

In Galicia the situation is without important change. At certain points we have made counter-attacks and captured some prisoners and machine guns.

GERMAN CRUISER REPORTED SUNK OFF SCOTLAND

London Also Hears of Damage to Two British Destroyers.

LONDON, Dec. 21.

Humors, entirely unconfirmed from an official source, were in circulation here this afternoon that a German cruiser had been sunk off the coast of Scotland.

It is reported further that two British destroyers have arrived at Leith badly damaged.

PANIC IN N. Y. SUBWAY

Trifling Blaze Causes Passengers to Stampede.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Two trainloads of passengers were thrown into a panic in the subway today as the result of a small blaze, caused by water on the rails, which filled the 73d street station with smoke. Flames began creeping up the side of one of the cars and the passengers immediately stampeded for the platform. Several women fainted at the exit.

When the first excitement seemed to be passing a second train pulled in and its passengers surged out to the platform, joining the exit. Flashes were called and quickly quenched the blaze.

MAY INDIOT RAFF SLAYERS

Woman Expected to Give Grand Jury Important Clues.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Guss Furbush by whom may result in the indictment of the slayers of Barnett Bay today. The woman informant is said to be acquainted with the slayers. She will be the first woman to testify before the grand jury.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 21.—Governor Cole Blaise today drew up his list of Christmas pardons, and as a result more than a score of men who have been convicted of crimes will set their Christmas dinner at home. The exact number of those who will not be allowed until December 28, it may be even greater than that which will be pardoned at the same time.

MUST RETURN TO NEW YORK FOR TRIAL ON CONSPIRACY CHARGE



The United States Supreme Court decides case unprecedented in legal annals by ruling that the slayer of Stanford White may be extradited from New Hampshire, thus reversing the United States Court in that State, which granted the fugitive a writ of habeas corpus.

P. R. R. SUBMITTED NEW RATES 8 DAYS PRIOR TO DECISION

Schedules Allowed by State Show Collusion Between Railroads and Commissioners, Commuters Say.

NEW CHARGE AGAINST PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Public hearing held in Philadelphia, December 10 and 11. Decision by Pennsylvania Commission on December 12. Changes ordered by the Commission in its decision December 12 sent to the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company on December 4.

PROOF THAT THE NEW PASSENGER TARIFF SCHEDULES FOR THE THREE RAILROADS ENTERING PHILADELPHIA, APPROVED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ON DECEMBER 12.

On December 12, the date on which the public hearing before the Commission in this city, the Commission in Washington put its stamp of approval on the changes proposed by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

While Commissioner Emory R. Johnson admitted last week that the commission had given the railroads an advance tip on their decision and that a conference had been held even prior to the public hearing in the City Hall, it was not known until today that the railroads had been advised even before the hearing what the new rates would be.

On December 1 the commission announced from Harrisburg that it would hear the complaints of the commuters in this city on December 10. From the evidence gathered by the attorneys today a secret conference must have been held with the railroad officials immediately after it was decided to grant a hearing, they declare.

The Pennsylvania Commission, however, in its effort to exact justice for the people decided to grant the railroads even more than was asked. In the request filed with the Interstate Board the Pennsylvania Railroad signified its willingness to continue the 100-trip tickets at an increased rate to be good for a year from the date of issue. The Pennsylvania Commission in its decision ruled that the tickets should be good for six months only.

In this respect alone does the order of the Pennsylvania Board differ from the tariffs filed at Washington a week earlier by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

COMMUTERS ALLEGED COLLUSION.

This evidence showing the course followed by the Pennsylvania Board in its attempt to adjust the controversy between the commuters and the railroads came to life today in a letter from George B. Modini, secretary of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to Edwin M. Abbott, attorney for the commuters.

With this new proof of alleged collusion between the railroads and the Interstate Commerce Commission.

BLAISE'S XMAS PARDONS

Many Prisoners in South Carolina Jail to Be Freed.

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EDUCATION AND THE LAWMAKERS

In tomorrow's Evening Ledger will be printed a notable article on the prospects of action by the new Legislature of Pennsylvania on Vocational Education. It is from the pen of

N. C. SCHAEFFER

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, than whom no man in the Commonwealth is better qualified to discuss the topic understandingly and with authority.

"Billy" Sunday Page

The story of Evangelist Sunday's life and work, and all the plans and organization for his Philadelphia campaign will be told in special articles, with illustrations, to be published tomorrow.

Boy Scouts' Activities

Beginning tomorrow special departments will be devoted to the man-building Boy Scout movement in Philadelphia in the Evening Ledger. All scout activities will be reported regularly in this department.

Watch for both these big features in the Evening Ledger Tomorrow

"\$1,000,000 BRIDE" CAUSES ARREST OF MOTHER-IN-LAW

Mrs. William F. Donaldson and Her Maid Accused of Assault—Counter Charge of False Arrest.

Another chapter in the Donaldson domestic controversy was enacted late this afternoon when Mrs. Evelyn Donaldson swore out a warrant for the arrest of her mother-in-law, Mrs. William F. Donaldson, 2005 Chestnut street, and Miss Fanny Blanc, her maid, charging assault and battery.

The warrant was issued by Magistrate Beaton and was accepted by H. Hampton Todd, counsel for Mrs. William Donaldson, after Constable Duffy, of the Magistrate's court, failed to gain admittance to the Chestnut street home. The hearing is set for tomorrow at 12 o'clock.

A summons was also issued in behalf of Mrs. William Donaldson by Judge Brown, of the Municipal Court, charging false arrest by the young Mrs. Donaldson. The amount of damages desired will be named later.

A writ of habeas corpus was allowed by Judge Brown to show cause why the elder Mrs. Donaldson should not turn the child over to Mrs. Evelyn Donaldson. The latter, when seen in the office of her attorney, John R. K. Scott, this afternoon, said she did not want to cause her mother-in-law trouble, but simply wanted possession of her child.

"I have a right to the custody of my little girl six months out of the year, and I came all the way from London to see her. It almost breaks my heart to have her kept from me, and I shall not stop until I once more clasp her in my arms."

The younger Mrs. Donaldson was arrested on Saturday afternoon when she called at the Donaldson home for the child. Little Dorothy, 7 years old, has been staying with her grandmother for some time and her mother has been spending most of her time in Europe.

Mrs. Donaldson obtained a divorce from Keith Donaldson at Reno, but the little daughter, it was agreed, was to live with her for only six months of the year and with Mr. Donaldson the other six months. As the time has arrived for her to take charge of the child, she went to the Donaldson residence, on Chestnut street, Saturday, for her daughter.

When a French maid refused her admittance, it was charged that she forced her way in and struck and scratched the maid, Mrs. W. F. Donaldson called in a policeman and Mrs. Evelyn Donaldson was taken to City Hall. She denied the charges and was released after she had signed a bond for \$50 to keep the peace.

"I was a fugitive from justice; he was charged with a real crime, and it is for a jury of the State of New York, after consideration of the law of the State of New York, to determine whether or not he was insane at the time of his act, and whether he is guilty of a crime against the laws of New York," said Justice Holmes.

"I have been alleged in the arguments of the attorneys for Thaw that it was no crime for a man in an insane asylum in the State of New York to walk out if he could do so," continued Justice Holmes.

"Therefore, it was contended, it was no crime to comply to do this thing. But that does not necessarily follow.

"It is not a crime for a person to withhold his patronage from a certain shop, but if a number of persons conspire together to withhold their patronage from that shop it becomes a conspiracy punishable by law.

"Therefore, we are obliged to hold that the withdrawal of Thaw from an insane asylum, inasmuch as it did obstruct the law, was a conspiracy for that purpose, and consequently the defendant is guilty of a crime against the laws of the State of New York and he must be held to New York.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Harry K. Thaw, slayer of Stanford White, has lost his fight for liberty in the United States Supreme Court. His extradition to New York State from New Hampshire was ordered by the court today.

HARRY THAW LOSES IN HIGHEST COURT; MUST STAND TRIAL

Supreme Bench Decides He Is a Fugitive From Justice and Orders Extradition to New York State.

PROGRESS OF EVENTS IN THE THAW CASE

June 25, 1906—Stanford White shot by Thaw in Madison Square Roof Garden.

January 23, 1907—Thaw's trial begun.

April 5, 1907—Commission appointed to examine Thaw's sanity.

April 12, 1907—Thaw jury disagreed, seven to five in favor of conviction.

June 15, 1914—Supreme Court denied application for bail pending appeal.

December 21, 1914—Supreme Court ordered Thaw extradited to New York for trial on conspiracy charge.

Estimated total of Thaw's expenses to date, \$963,000.

EXPLOSION OF DYNAMITE DESTROYS SIGHT OF BOY

Blackhanders Blamed for Wrecking Catharine Street Tenement.

An explosion of dynamite destroyed the eyes of a seven-year-old boy and wrecked a tenement at 810 Catharine street today. Six other sticks of dynamite found under the eyes started the police on a search for the black handers believed to have set the explosive.

The injured boy is Morris Duseco, whose parents live in the house. Mrs. George Azemoro, his aunt, who also resides there, believes the dynamite was planted by men who are hostile to her husband because he refused to sell them the house.

The boy was playing with his sister and cousin on the fourth floor when the dynamite exploded. The force of it threw him down a flight of stairs. The lad was taken to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

The other children were merely bruised. A great crowd gathered outside in the street.

Policemen Fitzmaurice and Peter Cohen ran into the house. On the fourth floor they found the greater part of the roof blown away and the stairs choked with debris. Fitzmaurice, who was digging about in the ruins, suddenly drew out an unexploded stick of dynamite. Investigation brought five more to light. They were all damp and harmless from the rain which had leaked through the roof.

Police believe the black handers cut a hole through the roof and then dropped dynamite into the eaves.

BRITISH AND JAPANESE LAND ON PANAMA COAST

Say They Seek German Station, But May Be Talking on War Supplies.

PANAMA, Dec. 21.—American officials of the Panama Canal today received information that shore parties had been landed by a British and Japanese cruiser in the vicinity of San Miguel Bay, on the Pacific coast of Panama.

The landing parties said they were looking for a German station in the area. It was suggested, however, that supplies were being taken on board the warships.

ORDERED BY COURT TO PAY HIS WIFE \$60 A WEEK

"Keely Cure" Agent Protests Because of Effect of "Billy" Sunday's Work.

The largest order for wife maintenance on record in the local courts was issued today by Judge Brown in the marital relations branch of the Municipal Court, requiring the payment of \$60 a week by James Nelson Burson to his wife for her support.

Burson is an exclusive Pennsylvania agent for the "Keely cure" for insanity.

Burson protested against the order, saying since "Billy" Sunday's visit to Pittsburgh the Keely institution in that city had not been paying expenses. He said a "sobriety wave" had resulted in poor business for his concern all over the State.

Witnesses called by Congressman-elect John R. K. Scott, representing Mrs. Burson, said Sunday had boomed the "cure" business, as many of his converts took the treatment.

The Bursons were married 13 years ago. They disagreed from the beginning, it was said, and 1907 they separated. Mrs. Burson said her husband's economy was too far. Thirty minutes after they were wed, she said, he berated her for wasting soap by leaving it in the water after she had washed her hands.

Her allowance was systematically reduced under various pretenses, Mrs. Burson said. After giving her testimony she collapsed in court.

SET MOTHER'S BEDS AFIRE

First Drive Aged Woman From Her Home.

Philip Heavey, of 439 Ludlow street, was taken from the University Hospital late this afternoon to the 23d and Woodland avenue police station to answer for his actions of last night, when he is said to have forced his 70-year-old mother to leave her home and then set fire to two beds, two chairs, a couch and a settee.

According to the police, the man was intoxicated and threatened to kill any one who attempted to enter the building after he had set fire to it. Battalion Chief Michael Walsh and Lieutenant Sweeney, of trust No. 6, broke into the building and found him overcome by smoke.

Mrs. Harriet Heavey said today she would not appear to testify against her son.

FRANK LOSES AGAIN

Denied Certificate of "Reasonable Doubt" for Appeal.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 21.—Federal Judge William T. Newman, before whom the latest move in the Lee M. Frank case was made Saturday, today declined to grant a certificate stating that in his opinion there was probable cause for an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States in the habeas corpus proceedings.

Justice Newman refused the application for the writ Saturday.

COAL SUITS DISMISSED

U. S. Judge Decides No Cause of Action Against Lehigh Valley.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Federal Judge Hugh this afternoon dismissed the Government's \$250,000 suit against the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company and a number of other defendants engaged in the mining and transportation of hard coal.

"No monopoly of interstate commerce is shown nor any attempt to monopolize," the opinion says. "Since the railroad dislocation control the coal carriers have no means of restraint."

MAN KILLED BY FLY WHEEL

A fall against a fly wheel in the Harrison Chemical Works, at 34th street and Chestnut, today resulted in the death of Nicholas Stamos, 32 years old, whose address is unknown. Stamos's head was crushed. He was pronounced dead by physicians at the University Hospital.

LOST AND FOUND

ALL "LAW AND EQUITY" APPLICABLE in the event of a dispute between the parties to a contract. The contract will be held to be valid and enforceable if it is not in violation of public policy and if it is not against the public interest.

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Pennsylvania's Statute of Wills WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The House today passed a bill authorizing the State of Pennsylvania to issue bonds in the amount of \$1,000,000 to meet the obligations of the State.