

HOSPITALS WILL BE HAVENS OF JOY ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Patients, Young and Old, Will Have Gifts and Entertainments—Doctors to Act Santa Claus.

Hospitals throughout the city and the outlying districts have taken on an air of gaiety and Christmas festivity which gives the lie to the statement that these are dreary abodes of gloom and sadness. Wards are being decorated with cheerful holly and mistletoe, trees are being erected, and many of the nurses and doctors will change their white hospital garb for the jolly red of a Santa Claus suit in order to make happy those juvenile patients who will be confined to their beds on Christmas Day.

At the Pennsylvania Hospital elaborate preparations are under way. Dr. Thomas L. Harris will impersonate Santa Claus and will distribute gifts to the "kiddies" from a large hospital truck. Turkey dinners will be served tomorrow to all who are not too ill to partake of them and a number of Christmas trees have been put up.

Dr. Oscar Abrahamson, who is known as Professor Santa Claus, will be the chief figure in the Christmas celebration at the University Hospital. Several days ago Dr. Abrahamson made the rounds of all of the beds, asking each occupant what plans he had made for Christmas. If the answer showed that they had no prospect of enjoying a Christmas dinner Doctor Abrahamson quietly placed some money in the patient's hand with a "Don't worry, there's enough to buy a Christmas dinner for those at home."

In addition to this generosity Doctor Abrahamson will distribute 600 gifts to the grown-up patients and 200 to the children. Twenty trees are to be placed in the various wards, two in each of the two children's wards by the Christmas and Easter committee of the hospital. A turkey dinner will also be served.

At the Presbyterian Hospital, 29th street and Fawcett avenue, Miss Caroline Milne, director of the nurses, has been drilling all the white and blue linen ladies under her supervision in the singing of Christmas carols. At 5 in the morning they will visit each ward and sing carols to the patients. Other Christmas festivities will follow later in the day.

The children's, women's and men's wards of the West Philadelphia Homeopathic Hospital will each be decorated with two Christmas trees. Gifts will be distributed and a sumptuous dinner served.

For all the "kiddies" at the Samaritan Hospital, Broad and Ontario streets, a stocking will be filled, containing candies of the good and pure kind, oranges and toys. A beautiful tree is being set up in their ward, and if all of the plans mature, tomorrow will be a day of unalloyed joy for the little patients.

Extensive arrangements have been made at St. Timothy's, Roxborough. The young ladies of the Junior Aid have not only provided the trees that are to be erected in the wards, but they have also arranged for the decorations. The Ladies' Aid Society will furnish ice cream to give each patient a large portion. In addition, each child will receive a gift and the employees will also be remembered.

The 300 children at the Philadelphia General Hospital are to be given the time of their lives. Everything from a Santa Claus to a vaudeville entertainment in the amphitheatre of the operating room is to be theirs. There will be seven large trees and 12 small ones placed throughout the hospital. The Santa Claus is being left tomorrow to make Christmas of 1914 a day not to be forgotten.

The hanging of the stockings is a custom which obtains in the children's ward of the Mt. Sinai Hospital. From the white crib of each and every "kiddie" who lies down tonight a little sock will be hung and when the morning comes a mouse, Superintendent Joseph Jesse will creep in and fill them up to the very top. Tomorrow Jacob D. Lit, president of the hospital, will pay his annual visit. He will come laden with toys and candy for all. A turkey dinner will also be a feature of the celebrations at the hospital.

A brilliantly decorated tree will be placed in each ward of the Germantown Hospital and there is to be a Santa Claus for each ward, too. No patient, however, is to be forgotten in the distribution of gifts. St. Peter's Protestant Church choir will sing Christmas carols in the early morning.

Youngsters at the Widener Memorial for Crippled Children are eagerly looking forward to the annual visit of P. A. B. Widener and his family, who come every Christmas bringing bundles of toys, dolls and candy. This year a brass band will furnish music for the children.

For weeks the children at St. Christopher's Hospital, Kensington, have been waiting for Santa Claus to come with his sleigh and reindeer. Santa Claus will be a Kris Kringle.

The Episcopal Hospital has left nothing undone to make Christmas a big day there. Beginning at 5 in the morning the nurses will sing the Christmas carols and this will be followed by all sorts of Christmas entertainments, not the least of them being a big turkey dinner.

EMERGENCY AID TO CLOTHE A THOUSAND POOR CHILDREN

Part of Council's \$50,000 Relief Appropriation May Be Used.

One thousand poor children, who have been unable to attend school because they have no shoes or warm clothing, will be properly clothed by the Emergency Aid Committee. The task will be undertaken by the Home Relief Department. Mrs. J. Willis Martin, vice president of the committee, said that should the present funds laid aside for the purpose run short it would be necessary to use part of the \$50,000 appropriation by Council.

The committee will seek the aid of the Board of Education in this work. Mrs. John C. Groome, head of the Home Relief Department, has advised Henry J. Kilduff, superintendent of the Board of Compulsory Education, of the plans of her department.

In many cases the children have no shoes and where they have only shoddy shoes worn out to the last of the sole. The principals of schools throughout the city have been asked to send in names of their most needy cases.

DISPENSING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO THE KIDDIES OF PHILADELPHIA



The Volunteers of America made many a heart glad today when its officers and regulars in the ranks gave Christmas gifts to thousands of those unfortunates whose homes are by force of circumstances without holiday joy. Colonel Alice V. Herron is shown as Lady Bountiful and Santa Claus combined in one.

WONDERFUL SPECTACLE IN SANTA CLAUS STORE

12,000 Gifts for Poor, Christmas Contribution of Ledger Readers.

"What have we got that is suitable for a little girl 6 months old?" "Do you think a boy of 10 would like a sled or a pair of roller skates the best?" "Is a child of 3 too young for a box of candy?" "Watch out and don't send duplicates to children in the same family."

If you think distributing a heterogeneous collection of some 10,000 or 12,000 toys, books, dolls and games among 5000 children is a strenuous, particularly when the aim of the distributors is to give the maximum amount of pleasure to each and every one of the 5000, then you ought to drop in at the Santa Claus Storehouse, at 608 Chestnut street, and watch the Santa Claus Lady and her two dozen assistants at work wrapping and assorting all of the contributions which have been sent in during the last few weeks by generous children of Philadelphia.

The Santa Claus Lady counted 10,000 donations yesterday, and then she stopped from sheer weariness. It is estimated that at least 12,000 have been sent in. Each and every poor child—and the names of thousands have been submitted by the churches—will receive a toy, a stocking and a box of candy. In the case of practically every one of these children this gift will be the only reminder that is given them of Christmas.

The Santa Claus Storehouse is a generous, sympathetic, big-hearted Philadelphia and Pennsylvania children, who responded so overwhelmingly to the appeal sent out by the Philadelphia Santa Claus Club are responsible for this splendid charity, the like of which has, perhaps, never been equaled before. Early tomorrow morning, 10 P.M. the Santa Claus Storehouse will be closed and the toys to their destination, and thus complete the good work.

AUSTRIAN SINK ALLIES' SUBMARINE, IS REPORT

Encounter of Foes Probable in Adriatic Sea.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 24.—The newspapers of Germany are making much capital of the fact that one of the enemy's submarines has been sunk.

The Deutsches Tageszeitung says that the sinking of a submarine by the Austrian coast batteries is without a precedent.

Despite the fact that part of this message has been struck out by the English censors, it is evident that it refers to an action between the allied fleet in the Adriatic and the Austrian fortifications, rather at Pola, at the southern tip of the Istrian peninsula, or in the region of Trieste.

PUNISH HIGH SCHOOL BOYS

Sent Back to Class for Disorder at Entertainment.

Students of the Central High School, Broad and Green streets, became so boisterous at the annual Christmas entertainment held in the auditorium of the school today that three numbers on the program, including an address by Doctor Thompson, president of the school, were omitted.

As a punishment for the disorder Doctor Thompson sent all the boys back to their classes. They were compelled to remain in class the remainder of the school day. Ordinarily on the day before Christmas they are permitted to go home immediately after the entertainment.

MRS. FELS IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Mrs. Joseph Fels, widow of the Philadelphia philanthropist, said in an address to members of the Women's Party of Cook County that "all suffragists should be single ladies."

She said single ladies were growing rapidly in number, and would soon outnumber the married women in the world.

YULE SPIRIT BRINGS A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO MEN IN TRENCHES

Traditional Mood of Joyous Season Prevails at Front, Even if Substance Is Lacking.

By WILLIAM MAXWELL

CENTRAL FRANCE, Dec. 24. We are not going to spend Christmas in Berlin, and the Germans certainly are not going to spend Christmas in Paris and London, as they imagined four months ago. Yet we shall spend it together—we in our trenches, they in theirs.

It has been my fortune to spend two Christmases under conditions of war. The first was in the siege of Ladysmith; the second in the Japanese trenches outside Port Arthur. Ladysmith had been invested for nearly two months, and we were beginning to feel the effect of short rations; yet Sir Edward Ward—or "Moose," as Sir George White afterward christened him—managed somehow to issue the ingredients for plum puddings. And there was joy in the garrison when it was made known that Queen Victoria had sent to every soldier and civilian a Christmas present in the shape of a box of chocolate.

The only trouble was that it could not reach us till the siege was over. But we enjoyed it in anticipation. Walking up to Caesar's Camp I overheard two hungry and weather-beaten soldiers talking over the gift. "I wonder 'ah much they'll be. Doat tha' think they'll be a pand' o' chocolet?"

"Shet up!" shouted his comrade. "It ain't blooming appetite she's a-thinkin' on. It's the blooming 'over o' th' thing'!"

ROBBERS CUTS WOMAN'S WAIST

She Screams, But He Steals Her \$27.

A highwayman out the waist of Mrs. Amelia Bauer, 2321 North 24th street, shortly after 7 o'clock last night and stole \$27 which she had hidden in her corsets. The hold-up occurred at Crooke and Cambria streets. The woman screamed, but the thief disappeared before help came. She reported the robbery to the police today.

After breaking a plate glass window with a brick a thief stole 150 undressed chickens from the store of Samuel Heiman, 2213 South street, shortly after 10 o'clock last night. The house of Thomas Sykes, 2415 Kip street, was entered last night and \$50 worth of jewelry stolen. The Cadillac automobile of George Rosenberger, 18th and Walnut streets, was stolen early last night from in front of the Westminster Apartments, 41st street and Westminster avenue. A Ford automobile belonging to Dr. A. Koenig, 124 Pine street, was stolen last night in front of 1710 Green street.

TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES

Andrew Ockler, 1255 N. 20th st., and Anna Miller, 2044 Harper st.
William Rader, 2405 Dakota st., and Florence A. Chant, 625 N. 21st st.
H. Earl Jansen, 2215 N. 21st st., and Florence E. Lander, 1215 N. 21st st.
Chester Henderson, 700 E. Birken st., and Georgia Young, 1225 Pittman st.
Helen Kalia, 625 N. 21st st., and Margaret L. Graham, 180 Queen st.
Oscar Kala, 1215 N. 21st st., and A. P. John, 1215 N. 21st st.
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KAISER ROUTS HIS ENEMIES

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field, is chronicle by Petrograd at Tuchow, south of Tarnow, a strategic point less than 40 miles from Cracow. Westward movement of an important section of the Russian battle front and renewal of vigor against the Austro-German defenders of Cracow, chronicled in recent Petrograd dispatches are substantiated in an interview with Field Marshal von Hindenburg, who has admitted that recent German operations against Warsaw have not yet attained the proportions of a general victory. Private advices from Berlin contain the admission that the Czar's recent retirement was strategic and not in the nature of a reverse. Meanwhile, Petrograd claims repulse of the German efforts to control the Bzura and Pilica Rivers.

The Allies' offensive in Belgium and northern France is apparently slowing up as it meets stiffer resistance and fierce counter attacks by the Germans. The French War Office reports further gains, especially between the sea and the Lys, where the lines have been advanced by mining the dunes, but these gains are apparently of small importance and are offset by German progress at several other points.

Although the French official statements studiously avoid special reference to the fighting near the eastern end of the Franco-Belgian lines, unofficial reports show that a new offensive has started on the Meuse north of Verdun, as a preliminary to a far more important drive in Alsace, by which the French hope to drive the Kaiser's forces back across the Rhine and to invade Germany in force.

Turco-Russian operations in Armenia continue in numerous skirmishes. Russia claims repulse of the foe in the Van region, toward the Persian border and, in an official statement, reports rout of vigorous attacks west of Kars.

Reports in Berlin say the Austrians have sunk one of the Allies' submarines, presumably in the Adriatic. A German aviator dropped a bomb upon Dover, on the British coast, but no damage was done, according to the British official statement. The flight was made from Ostend, the journey being 140 miles.

POPE PLEADS FOR PEACE

Not Discouraged by Failure of Former Efforts to End War.

ROME, Dec. 24. Pope Benedict XV today issued a new plea for peace in Europe. In response to an address New Year's greeting from the College of Cardinals, the Pope said: "A representative on earth of the Prince of Peace, I hope that peace will soon be established in Europe. I am not discouraged by the failure of my previous efforts to assure the mothers of England, France, Germany and Austria that their sons would not be killed on Christmas Day. I have heard the voice of the Holy Ghost saying, 'Keep on with your efforts.'"

DINNER AT SETTLEMENT

Forty-five Kiddies and Their Mothers

Forty-five children and their mothers were given a dinner by the Joy Settlement and the Joy Nursery, 1615 Broad street, today. The visitors had lots of turkey and other good things to eat. Margaret Weston, director of the institution, perhaps was the happiest one there. The turkey for the dinner was contributed by Thomas E. Cook, president of the settlement, which was organized in September. Efforts are being made to get a charter for the new settlement house.

CZAR DRIVING BACK OVER WAY BLOCKED BY GERMAN ADVANCE

Forward Movements Carry Defenders West of Warsaw and Nearer Cracow Goal.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 24.

The Czar's forces are driving back along the lines blocked at the beginning of the present Polish campaign by the Germans from Silesia and the Austro-German forces moving through Galicia. Progress already has been made in the westward movement from the Warsaw front, and large bodies of troops again are advancing against Cracow from the east and north. Most recent reports place the advance guard of the Russian wing in Galicia at Tuchow, south of Tarnow, which is less than two score miles from Cracow.

Great forces of Russians are moving in Poland between Kielce and Radom today, as well as to the south, in an effort to check the German advance, which has forced a retirement from Cracow. The success of the Austro-German movement from the region of Piotrkow, it is now admitted, resulted in threatening the communications of the army about Cracow. This was followed by a retirement of the Russians in the south, 35 miles to the east of Cracow. The advance of the Germans was directed toward the main railroad line from Ivanow, running southwestward to Mieschow along which the Russian movement upon Cracow was conducted.

HINDENBURG DRIVES TO CUT OFF CZAR'S CENTRE

Menaces Right Wing at Sochaczew, While Austrians Threaten Left.

BERLIN, Dec. 24. Strong forces concentrated at Sochaczew threaten the Russian right wing before Warsaw. Marshal von Hindenburg is making a vigorous drive at this position, which is essentially the key to the Czar's right. German success in breaking through the Warsaw lines of defense at this point will cut off the right from the center. The center will be isolated if another strategic move of von Hindenburg is consummated, the advance of the Austro-German contingent in southern Poland, which already has made great progress in the Piotrkow region.

Today's War Office statement, containing the foregoing details, indicates that Marshal von Hindenburg refuses to be diverted from his major objective, the capture of Warsaw, by the Russian resistance along the inside of the East Prussian frontier or by the revived Russian advance in Galicia.

Military experts point out that Sochaczew is a most difficult point for the Germans to attack, as the Russians are protected by rivers and their positions defended by previously built fortifications. It is pointed out that a decisive result in this region cannot be expected soon. Sochaczew is near the Vistula, between Lodz and Wyszogrod.

Why Experiment When Buying Candy

If you buy Adams' Candies, you can rest assured you are right, 40c to 50c the pound.

Imported boxes and baskets, 25c to \$2.50.

Delicious hot and cold soda. A delightful treat after the theatre.

ADAMS

215 S. Broad Street
ROSE PHONEX

VON HINDENBURG SAYS LINE HOLDS FAST

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my armies against the numerical superiority of the Russians are the railways, which make possible such quick movements of the Germans. But my troops have shown the utmost courage and endurance in battle and during the long marches which have been made. With such troops I must succeed.

"The Russians have great numbers of men. Considering their defective railways they have often made very quick movements of troops."

Field Marshal von Hindenburg is an extraordinary type of man. Rugged and vigorous, he has so manipulated his numerically weaker forces over the railroads as to check the Russian advance upon German territory through Poland, and finally to hurt them back upon their own defenses.

"The Germans are constantly shifting their forces to deliver new blows. They forced the Slavs to give way for 35 miles on a line running from Lodz and Lodz to Cracow. The new Russian position is but 20 miles from Warsaw."

Field Marshal von Hindenburg said there were between 30 and 40 Russian army corps (approximately 1,500,000 or 1,600,000 men) opposed to the German and Austrian line, which stretches over a front of 250 miles. Since November 10 the Germans have captured 118,000 Russians, it is said.

"The Russians have suffered enormous losses in killed, wounded and men taken prisoner," the Field Marshal said. "The heavy casualties which they suffered in three battles during the last four weeks resulted in the breaking of the Russian offensive and resistance along the entire line."

H. B. Claflin Company Reorganized

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Mercantile Stores Corporation, successors to the H. B. Claflin Company, has been organized under New York State laws, and Alexander New, of Kansas City, elected president. The company will supervise the business of 23 retail stores, formerly controlled by the Claflin organization.

ORIGINAL GENUINE Horlicks

Malted Milk

"Others are Imitations"

A Food-Drink for All Ages

Rich milk, malted grain, in powder form. For infants, invalids and growing children. Pure nutrition, upbuilding the whole body, invigorates nursing mothers and the aged. More healthful than tea or coffee.

Take no substitute. Ask for HORLICK'S

STORE CLOSING DAILY 5:30 P. M.

HATS TRIMMED FREE OF CHARGE

Lit Brothers

MARKET FILBERT EIGHTH SEVENTH

To One and All

A Merry Christmas

This Store Closed All Day Tomorrow

TO adjust any errors, representatives will be at Eighth Street, Main Arcade Entrance from 9 to 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Saturday Morning's Papers Will Announce Great Bargain News of Our Pre-Inventory Clearance Sales

ALLIES ADVANCE BY MINING DUNES ON BELGIAN LINE

Sappers' Operations Successful in Winning Ground Between the Lys and the Sea—German Resistance Stiffens.

PARIS, Dec. 24.

Advances are being made in Belgium near the coast by the mining of sand dunes. This is reported today in the official communique, which announced the repulse of all German attacks along the battle front.

In the region of Arras and Verdun fog has caused a lull in the fighting. East and southeast of Amiens, in the region of Lagny, there is a fierce artillery duel in progress, the report indicating that the Germans are trying to resume the offensive in that district. The Belgian army has evidently been shifted from the North Sea coast, as the report says the Belgians have advanced south of Dixmude. Hitherto they were reported to be operating near Nieuport.

The official statement today does not report extensive advances along the whole front such as previous communiques of the week have announced. The number of German counter-attacks reported appears to indicate that the Allies are now meeting with more stubborn resistance and that the enemy is making strenuous efforts to regain ground lost in the general advance of the French and British.

In the region of the Aisne brilliant resistance by the Allies repulsed attacks by the enemy. A German attack in the region of Ville Surouture, in the Champagne district, failed owing to the effectiveness of French artillery.

A new offensive movement has been begun by the Allies east of Rheims, according to the latest reports from the front, with the apparent intention of cutting a way to the German line of supplies at Metz and Luxembourg. The heavy fighting in Flanders has resulted in the strengthening of the German lines in the north, and it is believed that, relying on the strength of the natural defenses they occupy north of the Aisne, the Germans have withdrawn large numbers from the latter point.

DARING GERMAN AIRMAN DROPS BOMB ON DOVER

Makes 140-mile Flight From Ostend, But Inflicts No Damage.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—A German aeroplane made a raid over Dover today and dropped a bomb. Official announcement of the aerial attack was made by the Government Press Bureau. This was the first time that the British Government has officially admitted a German aerial raid over English territory, but it had been reported some time ago that a German of a seaplane had flown over Dover.

It is presumed here that the German aeroplane came from Belgium, having flown over part of the North Sea and the straits of Dover. Dover is 70 miles from Ostend, the point from which the daring aviator probably started. The round trip would entail a no-stop journey of 140 miles. London is 60 miles from Dover.

This is the second German attack against England within a fortnight, the bombardment of Scarborough and Hartlepool having been made on the 16th.

Has Dad been Overlooked for Xmas?

There still is time today, right up to six o'clock P. M. Accurate fitting in suit or Overcoat that he can wear away thirty minutes after you've picked it out—that's our speed at Perry's!

But, if it must be, then Saturday is Xmas - time enough for Santa's very practical assistant!

Meantime, the laurel and pine, the holly and mistletoe, the laughter and good Cheer of a Merry Christmas!

May yours be the Best ever, the forerunner of many more to come, each bigger, better, brighter than any gone before!

PERRY & CO., "N.B.T."
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