REPLIES TO WILSON'S NOTE,

BUT FAILS TO NAME SPECIFIC

Expresses Readiness to Cooperate In

But Says War Settlement

Must Come First

"An immediate opportunity for a comparison of views as to terms which

"To the Imperial Government an immediate exchange of views seems the

Germany today proposed a meeting of delegates of belligerents in her

Her formal reply to the American peace suggestion was made in a note

The German note holds the "most appropriate road to reach the desired

prevention of future wars can be begun only after the end of the present

have come be ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States

handed to United States Ambassador Gerard at Berlin and at the same time to

pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States at this exalted task."

most appropriate road to reach the desired result. It, therefore, proposes immediately a meeting of delegates of the belligerent States at some neutral

must precede those ultimate arrangements for the peace of the world."

THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL

President Wilson suggested:

answer to President Wilson's peace note.

Powers-Vienna, Sofia and Constantinople.

which was expressed in the President's communication.

most appropriate road in order to reach the desired result.

delegates of the belligerent States at a neutral place.

The German reply says:

Formation of League of Nations,

TERMS REQUESTED BY U.S.

AND GERMANY'S ACCEPTANCE

BERLIN, Dec. 26.

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PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1916

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## PRICE ONE CENT

# BERLIN PROPOSES PEACE CONFERENCE AT ONCE

## **GERMANS TAKE** 5500 RUSSIANS

Capture Strongly Fortified Village of Filipesti, in Rumania

### BATTLE IN WALLACHIA

BERLIN, Dec. 26. The capture of 5500 Russian prisoners in the Rumanian theatre of war was announced by the German War Office today. The strongly defended Rumanian village

German troops. Positions on both sides of Filipesti, defended by Russian troops, were taken at the

point of the bayonet. All of Dobrudja is now in possession of the German Allies, according to dispatches from the Rumanian front today.

German guns are pounding the bridgehead positions of the Russians all along the lower Danube.

Military critics believe that the way will soon be opened for a drive into Bessarabia if Field Marshal von Mackensen has such an enterprise in contemplation.

Russian troops holding the line in Wallachia have attempted to open a counteroffensive to lessen the pressure of the Bulgarian, German and Turkish troops along the Danube. The engagements which have developed are still in progress.

South of the Moldavian frontier the German Allies are engaged with the Russians around Rimnik. Further east the Austro-Germans are driving ahead with the double view of encircling Braila and cutting the Calatz-Tckutchiu rallroads.

Russian raiding detachments failed to advance in the Neagra Valley, south of Dorna Vatra, the official statement said detailing the fighting in the Carpathians, Temporary increase in the strength of

artillery fire on Ludova was reported. Russian artillery has become very active in Volhynia, the War Office announced. The Russians are believed to be preparing to renew their infantry assaults in that sector of the eastern front. A German enterprise near Lutsk was successful,

### SOLDIERS HOPE TO BE HOME NEXT CHRISTMAS

By HENRY WOOD

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN ALSACE LORRAINE, Dec. 25 (via Belfort and Paris).—France's soldiers celebrated Christmas with the sheolute conviction they will spend December 25, 1917, at home. They were all certain the victories along the Somme and at Verdun have established such an ascendancy over the enemy that France and her Allies will make "peace on earth, good will toward men" a reality. earth, good will toward men" a reality.

Especially was the conviction of peace

contact with the enemy who feel most strongly that they have attained a moral and material superiority over the enemy that makes a victory certain," explained the officer commanding this trench. "All my men during the day have been writing home, expressing the firmest assurance that they will pass next Christmas at their own

It was this conviction-felt by every pollu—that made every soldier rise to ex-septional efforts to render today's celebration memorable.

Hundreds of regimental letter carriers became veritable and heroic Santa Clauses. They worked all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, often at great risk, under heavy shell fire, delivering to the first-line trenches all Christmas packages. Opening of these parcels was the only celebration possible in the first-line trenches.

But in the rear the celebrations were elaborate. There were Christmas tree ex-ercises at all churches, where operatio singers, violinists and other musicians servin the army made up programs of en-

I attended one of the celebrations in Protestant church where the audience was made up of soldiers from the trenches, children and villagers. There was an elaborate program preceding distribution of the Christmas presents, and then the minister, wearing rough field leggings and the uniform of an army chaptain, preached a

it was a discourse declaring that not only civilization, but even Christianity itself was at stake in the present conflict.

"The new Christian duty," he declared, "is that of choosing and fighting for the nations whose civilization and whose ideals render the carrying out of the Christian life possible, and of choosing and fighting against those whose acts show they would not permit attainment of Christ's ideals." It was a discourse declaring that not only

### NO CHRISTMAS TRUCE ON BRITISH FRONT

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN Christmas.
FRANCE, Dec. 26.
Bo far as fighting is concerned, Christmas, 1916, was just December 25 to Britain's warriors. Christmas Eve is no wise at the cross differed from ain's warriors. Christmas Eve is no differed from the preceding night.

## Continued on Page Ten, Column Five THE WEATHER

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Increas-ing cloudiness tonight, followed by snow in the early morning and on Wednesday, lowest tonight about 25 degrees; wormer Wednesday; increasing custorly scinds.

LENGTH OF DAY Non rises ... 7:21 a.m. | Moon rises . 7:04 p.m. | Moon souths. 8:56 p.m. DELAWARE RIVER TIDE CHANGES CHESTNOT STREET

of water. 226 am. High water. 251 p.m. TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR



CHARLES S. WALTON

Following a Christmas reunion with his business associates, but also by the hun-He was fifty-four years old.

With his wife and several members of the family Mr. Walton was having a very happy time at the Christmas fireside, when he was suddenly stricken ill shortly before

It's the men who are closest in fighting and laughing before he was stricken, were at his bedside at the end.

> every comfort, and a wading pool was constructed for the little ones. Mr. Walton also furnished a caretaker, who acted as

## at this exalted task." The answer closes with the usual terms of international politeness. The text, as transmitted over Sayville wireless by the official press bureau the note was not made clear in the wireless dispatch. BERLIN NAMES PEACE TERMS IN NOTE

struggle of nations.

place."

Germany handed to the neutral nations whose services she asked in forwarding peace suggestions to her enemies, a scaled packet containing the specific terms upon which she was willing to make peace, ac-

ording to a report in circulation here today. The report had it that this packet was sent with instructions that it was only to be read and forwarded to Germany's enemies of the Entente in case those Powers answering Germany's proffers actually requested terms. Otherwise it was to be returned unopened.

The same report declared that in the case of the note submitted to Pope Benedict, Germany permitted the Holy Futher to read Centinued on Page Two. Column Two this secret list of concessions and demands.

No official comment was obtainable here today either from the Vatican or the court as to this report or as to the official view on the peace suggestions contained in President Wilson's note. It was apparent, however, that Italian officialdom is puzzled by the American suggestion, considering there is some diplomatic secret behind it.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 26. Emperor William is expected today to tell the diplomatic envoys of the United States and Switserland that Germany will make known har terms of peace if Great Britain shows any serious disposition to

A dispatch from the German capital said that the Kaiser would receive James W. Gerard, the American Ambassador, and Dr. Continued on Page Two, Column Three

## AUSTRIAN DESTROYERS ROUTED BY THE ALLIES

Vienna, However, Reports Entente Warcraft Were Hit During Fight in Otranto Channel

ROME, Dec. 24.—Aq attempt by Austrian men-of-war to s.nk Italian patrol ships in Otranto Channel on the night of December 22 was frustrated by French and Italian warships, says an Admiralty statement made public today. After a sharp engagement the Austrian ships fled. Two French destroyers and one patrol boat were hit and damaged badly. Otranto Channel connects the Adriatic and Ionian

Los Angeles Has a Few Snowflakes LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 26. - Slight traces of snow were noted at infrequent intervals here today, but melted upon reaching the payement. Show covers the moun-

tains of southern California, especially

THE FIRST PICTURES of the "GERMAN VILLAGE" at League Island appear on the PICTORIAL PAGE OF TODAY'S

Evening & Ledger

## LIVE STOCK PERISH IN BURNING BARN

Horses, Cows and Pigs Destroyed With Other Contents-Owner Has Narrow Escape

Horses, cowe and other live stock were

destroyed early today in a fire which burned the outskirts of Gloucester City, N. J. The loss is estimated at \$5000. Stanger just escaped being killed in the barn while trying to get out some cattle. The floor gave way, but he jumped to safety in time.
Five horses, six cows, a number of pigs and calves, hay send farm implements were lost in the fire. The born was burned to the ground. Stanger and his wife were alone on the farm when the fire started They were wakened by the glare from the

burning barn. Fire companies from Gloucenter City and Hadden Heights were sumnoned by neighbors, and those nearby ran to the Stanger place. Stanger and neighbors saved two horses and four cowe before the floor and roof burned through and felt. It was a long had to the acete for the fire communies and the barn was nearly destroyed before they arrived. Stanger was unable to say what caused the fire. An investigation will

Pittston Hotel and Homes Burn

## QUICK NEWS

## ANDREW FLETCHER HEADS AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 .- Andrew Fetcher, a member of the executive committee of the American Locomotive Company, has been elected president of the company, to take effect January 1, 1917. Mr. Fletcher succeds W. H. Marshall, who recently resigned.

## AD FLIGHT FROM ATLANTIC CITY TO OLD POINT COMFORT

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 26,-M, E. J. Jackwith-arrived at Old Point Comfort at noon today from Atlantic City in a Curtiss tiying boat. The trip was made in record time, according to observe.s. Jackwith suffered intensely from the severe cold.

### CITY MAKES HUGE PAYMENT ON INTEREST AND BONDS

City Treasurer McCoach today paid to the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, the city's fiscal agent, \$2,469,821.12 for six months' interest on outstanding municipal bonds and \$1,793,800, the principal of bonds maturing December 31, 1916. The sinking fund contributed \$2,360,764.25 and \$1,057,800. The difference will be made up by direct councilmanic appropriation. The sinking fund received \$1,979,-\$30.86, the last quarterly installment of the 1916 Council appropriation to the sink-

### BURGLAR GETS CASH AND GEMS LEFT BY SANTA

A burglar forced his way into two houses where Santa Claus had left jewelry and money in stockings hung by the fireplace, removed the articles and departed unobserved. He first visited the home of Thomas Conly, of 870 North Twenty second street, where he forced open a side window and then stole a gold signet ring and eight dollars in cash from several stockings. Knowing that Santa Claus also visited the home of Howard Milligan, of \$72 North Twenty-second street, just next door, the burgiar followed in his wake and stole \$21.75 from stockings. The thefts were reported to the police today.

### COLEMAN TO CONTEST CONGRESS SEAT

the American diplomatic representatives at the capitals of the other Central PITTSBURGH, Dec. 26.—Congressman William H. Coleman today served notice the Court of Common Pleas that he will contest the election of M. Clyde Kelly The note also hints that the "great work of the prevention of future wars. to succeed him in the Thirtieth District. He alleged fraud and petitioned for the can be begun only after the end of the present struggle of nations" and demmediate impounding of all ballot boxes pending congressional action. The official clares "when this moment shall have come" Germany will be "ready with ount gave Kelly, a Democrat, a plurality of 244.

### U. S. SENDS BRITISH ARABIA CHARGE TO BERLIN

result" is an immediate meeting "of delegates of belligerent States at a neutral WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.-Although it had been planned to await the stories of survivors, the State Department forwarded to Berlin the British Admiralty's denial that the P. and O. liner Arabia, sunk by a German submarine without warn-"The high-minded suggestion made by the President of the United States." ing, was in the Government service. It is understood the data went without comof America in order to create a basis for the establishment of lasting peace has ment by the United States. been received and considered by the Imperial Government in the friendly spirit

## LUMINOUS HATS LATEST WAR DEVICE IN LONDON

"The President points out that which he has at heart and leaves open the LONDON, Dec. 26.-Laminous hats for men and women have been introduced London for wear in the darkened streets at night. It is hoped in this way to "To the Imperial Government the immediate exchange of views seems the reduce street accidents, of which there were 34,575 in the first nine months of this year. Of these 577 were fatal. Some streets are kept in total darkness at night to "It, therefore, begs, in the sense of its declaration made on December 12, escape the Zeppelin menace, while others are dimly lighted. The hats are treated which offered its hand for peace negotiations, to propose immediate meeting of with a chemical mixture to make them shine in the darkness.

#### "Also the Imperial Government is of the opinion that the great work of AUSTRALIAN LOAN WILL BEAR 4 1-2 PER CENT INTEREST LONDON, Dec. 26-A news agency disputch from Melbourne says that the nterest rate upon the new \$90,000,000 Australian war loan will be four and one-half "It will (namely, the German Government will) when this moment shall

## per cent. Subscriptions will close on February 1, 1917.

SKATERS FLOCK TO PARK AND OTHER LAKES There is skating today on Hunting Park Lake, Concourse and Gustine Lakes in Fairmount Park and many of the suburban lakes and ponds. In most of the outving sections the ice has been thick enough for skating almost continuously for in Berlin, does not contain any peace terms. Whether this is the entire text of | the last ten days. The quarry pond of the Merion Cricket Club on the golf course is attracting many, and the ice is good on the old Chestnut Hill Park pond near Whitemarsh. The Woodside Park pond has not yet been opened for the winter.

## THIEF RETURNS \$5000 GEMS AS CHRISTMAS GIFT

TO POPE AND NEUTRALS, ROME HEARS ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 25.-Five thousand dollars' worth of diamonds set in rings and brooches, stolen from the mansion of Patrick W. Finn at Ant Hills November 10, were found done up in a little box tied with red ribbon on the doorknob of the Finn home Christmas morning when the family returned from mass. While there was some one in the house all day, no one noticed a stranger about the premises and the identity of the thief is still a mystery. Four carpet cleaners, who were arrested charged with the theft, probably will be exonerated and the case against

## SCRANTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS STRIKE FOR HOLIDAY

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 26.-Because they were refused the usual Christman holidays two thousand students of Central and Technical High Schools struck here today and refused to attend classes. The students marched en masse to the local newspaper offices and gave the yells and then departed for their homes, delaring they would not attend classes until Monday.

## BRAKEMAN'S HEAD CRUSHED PASSING UNDER BRIDGE

While riding on the top of a freight car, Elmer Matchener, twenty-three years old, of 2420 East Norris street, a Reading Rallway brakeman, was instantly killed when his head was struck by the framework of a bridge over the tracks early today. The accident occurred near Frankford Junction. He was found on the top of the car with the side of his head crushed in.

## BREAD FAMINE MENACE IN BUENOS AIRES

HUENOS AIRES, Dec. 26.-Fear of a bread famine increased here today when there were additions to the ranks of striking bakers. The situation, as to settlement of the strike, remained unchanged today.

### NEW INSANITY EVIDENCE IN WAITE CASE NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—That Dr. Arthur W. Walte, awaiting death at Sing Sing

for the murder of his wealthy father-in-law, John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids, Mich. down the large bars of Albert C. Stanger, on had confessed to his Brother, Frank Waite, that he had secreted a bottle containing poison in Frank Waite's home shortly before his arrest was disclosed in a statement issued here by the condemned man's brother. Frank Waite gaserted this evidence would be presented to the Court of Appeals in an effort to obtain a new trial for Doctor Waite on the ground of insanity.

## ROADS WORK TO RELIEVE FREIGHT CONGESTION

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.-A committee of railway officials is to establish an office Detroit with a view to eliminating the congestion there arising out of the car shortage situation, it was announced by the American Railway Association. Ship ments to Detroit consigners who are unable to unload immediately will be restricted. Stringent measures are to be adopted also to reduce the accumulation of care else

## BRITISH DESTROYERS COLLIDE AND SINK: 55 LOST

LONDON, Dec. 16.-The Admiralty announces that two destroyers were sunk in collision in the North Sea on December 21 during very bad weather. Bix officers and forty-nine men were lost.

## GOVERNOR CANCELS SOCIAL ENGAGEMENTS

HARRISBURG, Dec. 26.—It was unnounced for the Governor and Mrs. Brumbaugh that social engagements at the Executive Mansion had been canceled for the SCRANTON. Ps. Dec. 26.—Fire today destroyed the lotel of Anthony Schultz and three residences in Pittaion. It took the combined efforts of the Pittaion and West combined efforts of the Pittaion and West Pittaion freemen to get the biaze under combined. The kip is 22,000.

## U. S. SHIPS SPEED TO SINKING CRAFT

Maryland, Which Wirelessed Distress, May Have Foundered in Storm

CREW'S FATE UNKNOWN

Heavy Seas Add to Peril of Rescue Parties Off Newport

NEWPORT, R. L. Dec. 28 .- The strainship Maryland, which early today wire-Jessed that she was in distress about 100 miles southeast of here, is believed to have gone down. The fate of her crew in a mystery.

Revenue cutters and vessels which started

at once for the Maryland's position have not reported, but the Maryland's wireless has been stilled ever since the first call, Mariners here pointed out that if she was still affeat she undoubtedly would continue to send calls to guide the rescuers.

There is a bad sea running to the east and a cold north gale, which strengthened the belief here that the Maryland could not survive. Her first message stated that her engine from was being flooded. That was almost twelve hours ago.

While it is not definitely certain, it is believed that the Maryland is the 1882. ton vessel belonging to the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Ratiroad Company, which sailed from Philadelphia on Saturday with a general cargo for London. Grave fears are felt for the safety of her crew. Even if they escaped the versal. it was pointed out, they could not hope

So serious does the Coast Guard Service. consider the condition of the Maryland that the cutter dresham has been added to those already on the way to help, making four Government boats speeding to the Maryland's rescue.

boat.

to survive long in the heavy seas in a small

A French steamship, the name of which could not be learned, was signited today by coast guard lookouts here flying signals of distress three miles off Gayhead. The vessel appeared to be resting easily in deep water. With the weather moderating, it is not believed she is in any danger

A British vessel of 2963 tons, the Marry land, built in Glasgow, cleared the part of Philadelphia December 29 with a cargo of merchandise. She was reported to have cleared Reedy Island December 23. The record of American and foreign shipping names the Atlantic Transport Company as harmes the Atlantic Transport Company as the owner of the ship. Captain Hayford is in command of the vessel.

If this is the ship reported sinking, she could very well have reached the location described in the foregoing dispatches.

## MEXICAN "SHOWDOWN" TODAY, DEMAND OF U.S.

Carranza Must Sign or Refuse to Accept Protocol Already

Framed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The United

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The United States is tired of the evasions and pretaminon of Venustiano Carranaa, de factoruler of Mexico. This was made plain in official circles today, when it was admitted that his signature to a repudiation of the border protocol had been demanded. He has not been served with any uttimatum, That is not the Administration way. But he has been told, in firm and unmistakable language, that a reply outlining his stand on the protocol is "expected" not later than midnight tonight.

Secretary of the Interior Prankils K. Lane, who is chairman of the American section of the American-Mexican commission, said today the Administration was tired of fruitiess discussion with the Mexican representatives.

The vell of secrecy which surrounded much of the recent negotiations in Philadelphia is now lifted. The Mexican section of the commission was told a week ago that the modified protocol submitted by General Carranas would not be accepted under any circumstances. It was told also that the protocol signed by the full commission at Atlantic City a few weeks aga was the only one the United States intended to draw up and agree to, and that it must be accepted or rejected.

In the event of notification of acceptance of the protocol reaching here bufors midnight, another meeting of the commission will be held here a week from today, to make preliminary arranguments to procoed with the negotiations. If it is rejected Mr. Lane said, the course of the Administration was problematical.

Whether the Mexican situation would reach a sharper crisis today than any in

Whether the Mexican situation would reach a sharper crisis today than any in years hinged on one domand by Carrana. His modification of the protocol, rejected by the American members of the commission at Philadelphia last week, was in the main the insertion of an agreement that Maxican de facto troops be granted the right to cross into American territory in pursuit of bandits. This, it was said, was due as a recognition of the sovereignity of Mexico to offset that right assumed by American troops.

General Carranas was displeased liberton with the arrangement in the protocol

General Carrains was applicated in where with the arrangement in the protected agreed upon at Atlantic City, which left uncertain the date for the withdrawal of the Pershing column. While officials here are confident that, with the increasing robot the roundent that, with the increasing re-activities in northern Mexico, the American troops are a positive protection to much of the territory under Carranxista comret-they pointed out that "for home cultium-tion," at least, the de facto leader much appear to issist on an immediate with-drawed of the column on the ground that it constitutes a menace to Mexican new

## MURDERED MAN IDENTIFIED

Victim of Crime at Chester Was Issue Taylor, of Pittsburgh

CHRETER. Ps., Dec. 18.—The body of the man found enordered on Rust Ningh affect tridge here carly hundry account with a gunshot wested in the back, was identified at most today as Isaac Taylor, a resident of Pittaburgic.

Taylor was amployed at the Rumharma Arms Company plant and bestied in Polymone. The identification of the slain page was established by Yolka Sajeter, or 113 fary street. Philadelphia. A breaker of the dead am called at the Mangon harm in the day and identified the help.

# of Filipesti, on the Bureu-Braila Railroad. has been captured by atorm by Austro-

## CHARLES S. WALTON, FRIEND OF POOR, DIES

Leather Company President Stricken Suddenly in Midst of Family at St. Davids

## FRIEND OF ALL CHILDREN

family, Charles S. Walton, president of the leather firm of England, Walton & Co., one of the most widely known business men of Philadelphia, died today at Walmarthon, his palatial home at St. Davids. His death is felt keenly, not only by his relatives and dreds of poor throughout the city, whose ives he had brightened by many good deeds

him, Mr. Walton died shortly after 1 o'clock. His wife, his sons, Thomas E. Walton, Charles S. Walton, Jr., Joseph M. Walton, within a year, through France's victory, charles S Walton, Jr., Joseph M. Walton, strong in trench No. 4, at Belfort. There the soldiers spent their Christmas defending ter, with whom Mr. Walton had been joking ter, with whom Mr. Walton had been joking

> News of his death quickly spread over the surrounding countryside, and the Christmas cheer in many homes was quickly turned to sorrow. Messages of condolence, from rich and poor slike, came to the house throughout the day.

> Despite the fact that his various interests made him one of the busiest men in the city, Mr. Walton managed to find time to spread sunshine among those less fortunate. Every summer the lake on his magnificent estate was turned into a bathing pool for the poor. Tired mothers and fathers with their little ones there found relief from the oppressive heat. Bathing houses were erected that the welcome guests may have

## CROSSING GUARD GONE, ENGINE KILLS FRIENDS

Train Hits Girl, Brother and Fiance Returning From Christmas Party

A woman and two men were killed yesterday at the Ford street crossing of the Reading Railway in Norristown. They are Nicheli Romano and his sister, Victoria, and her flance, Leno Ciori, all of whom were returning in a wagon from the home of a friend with whom they had spent

Coroner McCliathery, investigating, has been informed that there was no watchman at the crossing when the tragedy occurred The galeman, he has been told, left his post shortly before the three were crushed beneath the wheels of a passenger train. The most tragic feature of the case lies in the fact that the watchman was an intimate Mount Wilson. friend of the victims. He is grisving to-

day as much as the relatives. The horse was also killed. The crossing at which the accident happened has been the scene of many acci-

Captain III, Crew Helpless

dents.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 76,-The count guard cutter Yamscraw today is searching the Gulf Stream for the achooner Stripton, 261 261 261 351 351 33 | 33 | 33 | 33 | 1 gree pushing to hundle the venual.