TEUTONS CAPTURE 10,220 RUSSIANS

Total Number of Prisoners Taken in Rumania Increased by 3000

GERMANS NEAR BRAILA

LONDON, Dec. 28.

A British military mission in Rumania destroyed Rumanian oil fields valued at $150,000,000 before that territory fell into German hands, W. W. Rutherford, a member of Parliament, announced at a general meeting of the Rumanian Consolidated Oil Fields Company today. He said the property and stock obtained by the Germans was valueless.

BERLIN, Dec. 28.

Braila is within reach of the cannon of the German armies in their steady advance in Rumania. Writing for the official press bureau today a military critic declared that new and strong Russian forces in this section seem to show no greater force of resistance than the Rumanians.

"The Rumanian troops were decimated in the Wallachia retreat and have gone behind the Sereth in order to be reformed there under Russian leadership," the critic declared.

At the same time the Russians tried in strongly prepared positions between Rimnik-Sarat and the Danube to offer resistance to the further German advance toward the Sereth. In consequence, there were new and violent engagements. In the first rush the allied German Austro-Hungarian troops captured 5500 prisoners and gained ground. The strongly fortified village of Filipesti fell into their hands as well as adjoining positions on both sides.

"The German attack was efficiently assisted by surprisingly great successes in Dobrudja, where after the fall of Tulcea and Isaccea, only the Macin bridgehead of Braila offers resistance. But Braila is already within reach of the German-Bulgarian cannon."

OFFICIAL REPORT

The text of the official report issued by the War Office this afternoon on operations in Rumania follows:

Army group of Archduke Joseph—In the sector of Ludova forest, in the Carpathians, German rifles drove off strong Russian patrols in hand grenade engagements. In the Mestecanesci region there has been repeated cannonading. In the mountains in the sectors of Putna and Oitoz valleys fighting activity has increased.

Army group of Field Marshal von Mackensen—Wednesday brought to General of Infantry von Falkenhayn and the Ninth Army full victory near Rimnik-Sarat over Russians summoned to the defense of Rumania. The enemy, after being defeated on December 26, tried to regain lost ground by means of counter-attacks with strong forces, but the attacks failed. Prussian and Bavarian infantry divisions pressed behind the enemy, who flowed back. Our troops took with a rush the new Russian positions which had been fortified during the preceding night, and pushed ahead beyond Rimnik-Sarat. At the same time, further to the southeast, German and Austro-Hungarian troops pierced strongly intrenched Russian lines, and here also repulsed violent counter-attacks made against the flank. We advanced, fighting our way, in a northeasterly direction. The enemy again defeated, suffered sanguinary losses. We captured 3000 additional prisoners and twenty-two machine guns. Booty was brought in also. The number of prisoners captured by the Ninth Army in engagements near Rimnik-Sarat now totals 10,220. Only partial engagements were fought by the Army of the Danube yesterday. In Dobrudja Bulgarian and Turkish troops, east of Macin, captured a fortified height from the Russians.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

Attempt to invade Russian soil, north of Dobrudja or east of Moldavia, is the next development in Field Marshal von Mackensen's offensive expected here. Advance of the Teutonic columns is being opposed in fierce fighting by the Russo-Rumanian troops. The German forces have lost heavily in their northward advance, and from now on they will have even heavier fighting cut out for them, as the Russo-Rumanian lines are now attaining their greatest strength through consolidation.

Very little doubt existed here today in the minds of military experts that Mackensen's objective was the great Russian Black Sea port of Odessa. They recalled recent dispatches from the eastern front hinting that this was the point beyond Bucharest at which the Teutons were aiming.

Almost seven-eighths of the entire territory of Rumania is now in German hands. Moldavia alone remains free from the invader. But here the Russian and Rumanian line is safe from the sort of military tactics by which Von Mackensen and Von Hindenburg achieved most of their successes in the Rumanian campaign—flanking operations. On the west the Russo-Rumanian front is protected by the great Carpathian range and on the east the rivers Danube and Pruth are safeguards.

London now expects a stiffening of the resistance along this Moldavian line and a halt put to the German advance. Capture of Rimnik-Sarat, announced last night, was not unexpected here.

BROTHERHOOD CHIEFS MEET RAILWAY HEADS

Hope of "Getting Together on Something" Object of Secret Conference

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—In the hope of "getting together on something," as one official expressed it, the railroad brotherhoods and chief railway managers went into conference here today. The meeting was secret and the participants declined to talk for publication.

Both sides are agreed on one thing, it was stated. That is the determination to let the Supreme Court determine the status of the Adamson eight-hour law. The brotherhood chiefs are endeavoring to gain the managers' consent to the principle of the eight-hour law, but so far their efforts have been unsuccessful.

TWO MORE BLOWS FOR RUMANIA

The Austro-German invaders have won two more additional successes, capturing Rimnik-Sarat after a fierce five-day battle with the Russians and also, according to today's reports, taking the rich stronghold of Braila. It is believed the Teutons will soon cross to Russian soil.

ALLIES TO RECITE FOE'S "CRIMES" IN REPLY TO BERLIN PEACE OFFER

Continued from Page One

credited with the statement that they favored Geneva as the seat of a peace conference rather than The Hague. Their demeanor has given rise to the impression that Austria-Hungary is very eager for peace at once, the dispatch added. The Geneva correspondent of the Daily News conceived the impression that Emperor Charles, the new ruler of Austria, is doing all in his power to help the peace movement and is using all his influence with Germany in this direction.

BERLIN REPLY TO U. S. NOTE REACHES CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.

Germany's answer to President Wilson's peace note reached the State Department today.

The State Department cable office notified Secretary Lansing of receipt of the message about 10 o'clock and immediately provided him and President Wilson with copies.

Secretary Lansing had purposely avoided study of the note as contained in press reports, so his mind would be clear on the exact points made by Germany, and not confused by any possible misstatements in press texts. The official copy was understood, however, to conform in all essentials with the press version.

The official who announced receipt of the reply said nothing confidential was attached to the answer. There had been suggestions that German might have given her terms secretly in an accompanying message to Ambassador Gerard for transmission here.

Count Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, again today insisted that the German reply is a complete response to the message of President Wilson. He said that he felt satisfied that, so far as the German peace terms are concerned, they can be learned by the United States if not already known. It is very likely, he intimated, that Foreign Minister Zimmermann already has communicated them to Ambassador Gerard, and that the latter has, in turn, sent them along to President Wilson.

When Secretary of State Lansing today was asked whether he had received any secret communication from the American Ambassador he ruled the question out of order. He said that he was tired of being asked such questions, inasmuch as if he had received any secret or confidential communication naturally he could not discuss it.

The German Ambassador also issued a formal and unqualified denial of a story published by a New York paper today in which it was asserted that the German peace movement really was designed to take the eyes of the United States off the submarine problem. The Ambassador said:

"Any statement to the effect that I advised Germany to make its peace proposal with a view to taking the eyes of the United States Government off the submarine question is an unqualified lie. The whole story that a break between the two nations impends over the submarine situation is of the cock and bull variety."

It again was made plain by officials close to the German Embassy today that Germany is ready to restore Belgium on the ground that her invasion, while compelled by military necessity, was illegal. While no official statement is obtainable for obvious reasons, there is little doubt that Germany is ready, in the interests of peace, to make concessions along the lines already indicated in news dispatches from Washington. These proposals would include:

Withdrawal from occupied territory in France and restoration of Belgium.

Creation of Poland as an independent buffer State.

Settlement of the Balkan problem for all time by agreement in an international peace conference, which would divide the territory along racial lines in a way which would keep it from being the "tinder box of Europe."

Settlement of questions of indemnity and all other territorial questions by the peace conference.

In this connection it is known that Germany would like to inject the Irish situation into the peace negotiations as a "trouble maker" for Great Britain, and also that she would like, if the discussions were wide enough, to bring Egypt to the front in an effort to aid Turkey's cause.

Both President Wilson and Secretary Lansing, however, have decided to maintain a discreet silence on the question of peace. This is due, it is believed, to the fact that they do not wish to appear to be wearing a chip on the shoulder when peace is being talked with even slight hope of success.

There is no mistaking, officials believe, that President Wilson's peace notes to the belligerents and the two subsequent "explainings" by Secretary Lansing in effect constituted a warning to all belligerents against any unbridled acts of war that would involve American lives or rights. Since it has always been this Government's attitude that violations which affect property are not even to be compared to violations which affect life, the warning is generally interpreted as being directed, therefore, chiefly against the Central Powers, whose submarines have not only destroyed and endangered American lives, but have also destroyed American property, admittedly in violation of all rules of humanity and international warfare.

Officials, however, are trying not to overemphasize this, as they really want to aid peace, and have already put the Government on record as not considering any change in the neutrality policy at this time.

One authority, however, repeated that there would be no more note writing to Germany; and he indicated that if Germany cuts loose with her submarine following probable failure of the peace negotiations, then a break must inevitably come, in keeping with the American Sussex note threat.

POPE ENCOURAGED BY WILSON'S MOVE

ROME, Dec. 28.

President Wilson's note to the belligerent and neutral Powers, asking them to express their war aims, has greatly encouraged Pope Benedict in his peace efforts. The opinion was expressed in Vatican circles today that, although the Pontiff may not go so far as to make open and direct overtures to the warring nations, he probably would make known his appreciation of the document.

An Italian statesman, who has had portfolios in the Government several times, expresses the belief that actual progress toward peace has been made by President Wilson's note, in spite of the opposition expressed in London, Paris and Petrograd.

LA VALANGA TEUTONICA E' PRONTA PER L'ITALIA

Il Ministro della Guerra Italiano Riconosce che Austriaci e Tedeschi Preparano l'Offensiva

ROMA, 28 Dicembre.

Rispondendo ad un accenno interrogazione nella Camera dei Deputati ieri, il generale Morrone, ministro della Guerra, ammise che, secondo informazioni giunte allo Stato Maggiore italiano, gli Stati Maggiori austriaco e tedesco stanno preparando una grande offensiva contro la fronte italiana per la prossima primavera.

Un deputato, durante un discorso, aveva accennato alle voci della prossima offensiva austro-tedesca contro l'Italia, e volgendosi al ministro della Guerra aveva espresso la speranza che il Comando Supremo italiano prendesse tutte le misure necessarie per resistere alla nuova pressione e che una quantita' sufficiente di artiglieria e di munizioni fosse concentrata dove sarebbe stato necessario per far fronte all'offensiva.

I giornali italiani si sono largamente occupati in questi giorni delle voci circa l'offensive teutonica contro l'Italia ed hanno espresso tutti la speranza che si provvedesse a tempo per fronteggiarla come si deve. Si dice che il caso di una offensiva austro-tedesca contro l'Italia e' stato discusso anche in seno al consiglio generale degli alleati dell'Intesa. Sembra che il Trentino sara' ancora il teatro dove si svolgera' questa nuova manovra teutonica, anche perche' si sono osservati in quella regione importanti movimenti di truppe austriache e di materiale da guerra. Si e' notata una speciale attivita' degli austriaci nella zona degli altipiani e nell'alta valle dell'Astico. La fronte del Trentino del resto e' sempre la piu' favorevole ad un'offensiva teutonica perche' minaccerebbe le retrovie dell'esercito italiano dell'Isonzo e perche' ivi gli austriaci tengono ancora posizioni alte da cui dominano le posizioni italiane, specialmente nella zona di Asiago.

Ieri sera il Ministero della Guerra pubblicava il seguente rapporto del generale Cadorna circa la situazione alla fronte italo-austriaca:

Nella valle dell'Adige la nostra artiglieria ha tenuto le linee nemiche sotto un violento fuoco ed ha ostacolato il lavoro di gruppi di operai militari.

Sul resto della fronte il completamento dei nostri lavori campali e' stato interrotto in parecchi punti da schermaglie con i posti avanzati del nemico.

ANCORA INTORNO ALLA PACE

Un eminente uomo politico che e' stato parecchie volte al potere ed ha ancora molta influenza, accennando alla nota del presidente Wilson, diceva ieri che quella nota sara' la pietra miliare, la base della futura pace in Europa. Egli aggiunse che come il presidente Roosevelt porto' la pace tra la Russia ed il Giappone, cosi' il presidente Wilson avra' la distinzione di aver fatto i primo passo che portera' alla discussione della pace europea ed alle trattative tra le nazioni belligeranti.

Secondo quanto affermano coloro che sanno qualche cosa di cio' che si svolge dietro le scene della diplomazia europea, l'opposizione che la nota del presidente Wilson ha incontrato tra gli estremisti di ambedue i gruppi belligeranti, e' la migliore prova del suo successo. Il presidente degli Stati Uniti ha colpito il chiodo sulla testa, si dice in alcuni circoli romani.

Telegrammi da Londra dicono che Inghilterra e Francia si sono messe perfettamente d'accordo circa la risposta che esse daranno alla nota del presidente Wilson, e che l'accordo e' raggiunto anche con la Russia e l'Italia. Si spera cosi' che la risposta potra' essere telegrafata a Washington alla fine della presente settimana. Nei circoli londinesi si ritiene che non vi c' la piu' lontana possibilita' di riunire una conferenza per la discussione della pace a meno che la Germania non voglia fare dare suggerimenti circa le condizioni che essa pone per la pace. La risposta degli alleati alla proposta tedesca non specifichera' con precisione le condizioni della pace ma definira' in linea generale gli scopi dell'Intesa.

Dispacci da Petrograd dicono che lo czar in un ordine del giorno alle truppe combattenti, riferendosi alla proposta tedesca, dice che la Germania ha proposto la pace perche' si sente battuta, perche' sente che la sconfitta decisiva e' vicina. Come quando essa era potente dichiaro' la guerra perche' si sentiva forte, cosi' essa ora propone la pace perche' sente la sua debolezza. Nel tempo stesso essa vuole approfittare del suo successo temporaneo in Rumania il cui valoroso esercito manca della necessaria esperienza nella guerra moderna. Gli alleati dell'Intesa hanno il diritto, dice lo czar, di scegliere il momento per la conclusione della pace, e questo momento non e' ancora arrivato, giacche' il nemico non e' ancora stato cacciato dalle provincie occupate. Concludendo lo czar esprime la speranza che nessun soldato russo desideri la pace prima di aver conseguito la vittoria che sola puo' dare una pace duratura e feconda.

LAUDS WILSON NOTE

Dr. Bernard Dernburg is the author of an article headed "Peace Chimes" in the Berlin Tageblatt praising the President's request to the warring Powers for definite settlement terms.

Celebrates 102d Birthday

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 28.—Surrounded by his 116 descendants, John Ernest Bach celebrated his one hundred and second birthday here today. Bach is an arch foe of prohibition. He cast his first vote for Zachary Taylor in 1848.

WILL DISCUSS RIVER BRIDGE

Pennsylvania-New Jersey Commission to Consider Project Tonight

The question of a bridge over the Delaware will be considered again tonight at a joint meeting of the Bridge Commissions of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, at the Bingham Hotel.

The possible site for the bridge and the engineering problems to be overcome will be discussed. Mayor Smith has been invited to attend and delegates from the United Business Men's Association and other business bodies are invited to participate.

"MY FRIENDS IN KHAKI"

"There are loads of them scattered all along the border—boys that I know ever and ever so well.

"Some of them had written me that to see the 'Golden State Limited' go by was one of their big daily events.

"And so I found it.

"You surely ought to tell every one going to California this year to go one way at least on the 'Golden State Limited' and see the boys in khaki."

Another splendidly equipped train via Rock Island—El Paso Southwestern—Southern Pacific over the Golden State Route is the "Californian."

It reflects the high-class service of the "Golden State Limited." Both trains via the direct line of lowest altitudes—the most comfortable and interesting route to Southern California.

Less than three days—Chicago-St. Louis to Los Angeles—no extra fare.

The military encampments at El Paso and West provide a continuous panorama every loyal American should see. Tickets permit ten-day stopover at El Paso.

Tickets, reservations and California literature on request at Rock Island Travel Bureau, 434 Widener Bldg., H. M. Brown, D. P. A. Phone, Walnut 122.—Adv.

IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF *ANY* MOTOR TRUCK. IT IS A QUESTION OF ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY IN KEEPING EVERLASTINGLY AT WORK.

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Our Record Service Is Great.

Let Experts Serve You

in the selection of your library of Victor Records, so that your entertainment will be complete from every musical standpoint—operatic, classical, instrumental and so forth.

We point with pardonable pride to the fact that with **four exclusive Victor stores** we hold an enviable position to solicit your record patronage.

January Records Today

Talking Machine Co.
VICTOR DISTRIBUTORS
Broad Abv. Walnut
Branches Open Evenings
Broad and Columbia Ave.
52d & Chestnut Sts. 4124 Lancaster Ave.

For the New Year—
the belated Xmas gift or the New Year remembrance, what could be more appropriate than a bottle of choice perfume or toilet water? We still can meet nearly any taste, and prices range from 25 cents to $25 a bottle. Our own Gardenia, 75c and $1.25, is a general favorite.
LLEWELLYN'S
Philadelphia's Standard Drug Store
1518 Chestnut St.
Open every evening.

SHOP HERE—DRESS SMARTLY—SAVE MONEY

FRANK AND SEDER
ELEVENTH AND MARKET STREETS
WOMEN'S & MISSES' OUTER APPAREL

Star Values for Friday

OFFERING UNPARALLELED SAVINGS ON THE SEASON'S MOST FASHIONABLE OUTER WEAR.

While other stores are now reducing only their odd lots, we are daily making large, advantageous purchases of the season's smartest apparel, which we are selling, together with the greater part of our regular stocks, at ½ price and less. Assortments are enormous!

FUR COLLAR COATS AT $6.50

Handsome models that compare with the best $10, $12.50 and $15 garments elsewhere. Included are astrakhans, fine corduroys, wool plushes, wool velours, chinchillas, etc. Some have silk plush collars, others fur collars and still others, broad cape collars of self-material.

Silk Plush Coats
Silk Velour Coats
Values to $25
$10

Luxurious, warm winter Coats — many fur trimmed and satin lined.

This Fur Collar Coat $6.50

FRANK & SEDER

ROBINSON & CRAWFORD

At All Our Stores
Where Quality Counts
Low Prices Prevail

OUR STORES WILL BE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY

WE WISH OUR PATRONS and FRIENDS A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Now we approach the greatest of all secular festivities, New Year's Day—Christmas feasting has depleted the larder, and the housewife must make preparation for the coming celebration. Our fleet of motortrucks and wagons has been busy plying between Our Big Warehouse, "The House That Quality Built," and Our Stores, "The Stores Where Quality Counts," laden with goods to fill the gaps made by the heavy Christmas buying—and now, as at all times, "Our Stores" are ready to meet the coming holiday demands.

Place your order at the R. & C. Store nearest your home as early as possible, please.

NEW YEAR SPECIALS THIS WEEK

14c Fancy Large PRUNES Special price 12c lb.
Fancy large California Prunes, luscious and meaty. Prunes are a very healthful and economical fruit.

12c Choice California PRUNES Special price 10c lb.
Good sized California Prunes, of very choice quality, a big bargain at this special price.

IT PAYS TO BUY DRIED FRUIT "WHERE QUALITY COUNTS"

Freshly Baked Soda Crackers Special price 9c lb.
You'll enjoy these freshly baked Crackers, with our rich, tasty cheese.
Fresh Spiced WAFERS lb. 13c | Rich, Tasty CHEESE, lb. 28c

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR'S FEAST
Choice Cranberries, lb. 6c
Gold Seal Mince Meat, lb. 12½c
Atmore's Mince Meat, lb. 10c
Fancy Orange Peel, lb. 13c
Fancy Lemon Peel, lb. 13c
Gold Seal Seeded Raisins, pkg. 12c
Fancy Seedless Raisins, pkg. 15c
Soft-Shell Almonds, lb. 25c
California Walnuts, lb. 20c
Mixed Nuts, Hazel Nuts, Brazil Nuts — While They Last lb. 13c
Choice Oranges, doz. 15c, 22c
Grapefruit, each 5c
Fancy Eating Apples, dozen 23c
Peanut Brittle, pkg 10c

45c GOLD SEAL TEA Special Price 39c lb.
Gold Seal is our regular 45c Tea, but Tea of this quality is usually sold for 80c to $1 the pound elsewhere. Take advantage of this special price and get a good supply of your favorite kind—Black, Mixed or Old Country Assam.

29c KAMELIA TEA Special Price 25c lb.
A Tea of Excellent quality and flavor, equal to what is usually sold at 40c the pound outside Our Stores. Order your favorite kind—Black, Mixed or Assam, while this special price lasts.

SEASONABLE GOODS at REASONABLE PRICES
Gold Seal Oats, pkg. 8c
Capital Brand Oats, pkg. 6c
Gold Seal Rice, 1-lb. pkg. 8c
High-Grade Rice, 1-lb. pkg. 7c
Choice-Grade Rice, 1-lb. pkg. 5c
Noodles fine, wide or medium pkg., 4c, 8c
Gold Seal Farina, pkg. 9c
Ralston's Wheat Food, pkg. 14c
Cream of Barley, pkg. 13c
Marrow Beans, Soup Beans, Kidney Beans lb. 14c
Best Lima Beans, lb. 10c
Gold Seal Buckwheat, pkg. 10c
Gold Seal Pancake Flour, pkg. 10c
Cane and Maple Syrup, bottle 10c

R. & C. BEST BLEND Coffee lb. 30c
This incomparable blend comprises the highest grade Coffees grown, and its smooth, rich, mellow flavor satisfies the taste of the most particular people.

ROBFORD BLEND Coffee lb. 20c
A Coffee of excellent quality at a very low price. Compare it with the average 20c Coffee and note the superior value you get at Our Stores.

Gold Seal Peaches, can 18c
California Peaches, can 10c, 15c
Sliced Pineapple, can 12c
Choice Pears, can 13c
Choice Pumpkin, can 10c
Tomatoes, can 10c, 12c, 14c
Corn, can 10c, 12c, 14c
Peas, can 10c, 12c, 15c

GOLD SEAL BREAD
loaf 5 cents
Made from the best and purest ingredients, and always fresh at Our Stores. You'll want an extra supply of Gold Seal Bread on Saturday, for Sunday and Monday.

Cooking Herbs, pkg. 2c, 4c
Cracker Dust, lb. 7c
Breadcrumbs, pkg. 5c
Best Barley, lb. 5c
Fancy Onions, lb. 5c
Lea & Perrin's Sauce, bot. 19c
Tomato Catsup, large bot. 10c
Olives, bot. 8c, 15c, 20c

Fancy White Mackerel, each 7c, 12c, 20c
Try one of these fine, fat Mackerel for breakfast. All our Mackerel are of the best quality. Prices vary, according to size.

These are only a few of our Specials listed here. It will pay you to visit your nearest R. & C. Store.

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The Stores Where Quality Counts Throughout the City and Suburbs