

REDS' TROOPS REBEL: BATTLE IN PETROGRAD

Fighting Follows Refusal of Troops to Leave City

FOUR CORPS JOIN IN STREET FRAY

Bolshevik Forces Sent Against Mutineers, Stockholm Hears

BIG PLOT UNEARTHED

Cadet Party Charged Fomenting Revolution by Distributing Liquor

By JOSEPH SHAPLEN STOCKHOLM, Dec. 22. A great battle in the streets of Petrograd was reported from the Russian capital today.

Four army corps refused orders of the Bolshevik Government to leave the city.

The Bolsheviks sent other troops against them. The fighting was still in progress as the dispatch was sent from Petrograd. Further details were not available.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 21 (delayed). Discovery of a widespread plot against the Bolshevik Government was announced by the Workers' and Soldiers' Soviet today.

Full details and documentary evidence which, it is declared, involved many leading members of the Cadet (Constitutional Democrat) party, were to be published shortly.

One of the plans of the revolutionaries, it was said, was to destroy discipline among the Soviet troops by organizing looting parties to steal liquor and distribute it among the soldiers.

STATUS QUO MAY BE BASIS OF TEUTON PLAN PARIS, Dec. 22. Germany's newest peace proposals, now being drafted, contemplate peace on the basis of the status quo, according to special dispatches printed in today's Matin.

According to the Matin's information, Foreign Secretary von Kuhlmann will offer the evacuation of Belgium with "unlimited" meaning, presumably indemnities—and will announce retirement from France and Italy in exchange for the return of Germany's colonies and guarantee of the freedom of commerce. The question of Turkey, it was stated, is to be left in the background in the hope of interesting England in some "trade."

Roumania, it was stated, is insisting on acquisition of the Bosphorus, southern Macedonia, and that part of Serbia extending as far south as Moravia. She is also asking that Roumania be put under a protectorate, or that she be made a protectorate of Germany, which would allow Germany to dominate Roumania and Alsace-Lorraine may be ignored in the forthcoming peace negotiations or possibly concessions as to these two factors in peace completely refused.

On the other hand, categorical denial of "reports in the foreign press that Germany will repeat her peace offer" was registered by the semi-official newspaper, Cologne Gazette, today, according to dispatches received in Amsterdam.

WILSON GETS FOOD HEARING FOR HOOVER

Tells Probers Labors Saved Allied Morale and Held Sugar Down

ONE MAN IS ARRESTED

Complaints Made by Many Housewives, Especially in Northwest Section

Washington, Dec. 22. Herbert Hoover, after personal interview of President Wilson, answered critics of the food administration before the Senate sugar probe committee today.

In a prepared statement introduced in committee hearing only after the White House had so requested, Hoover declared his activities had resulted in maintaining the morale of the allied countries and kept sugar prices in this country from soaring to more than twenty cents a pound.

For more than a week Hoover has been prevented from testifying before the sugar committee while serious charges were launched against his sugar administration by Claus A. Spreckles and others.

Today he was to appear at noon, but after an executive session Chairman Reed, of the committee, announced Hoover's testimony would be postponed until next week.

It was then the President took a hand and after communicating his wishes to the committee it was decided to let Hoover deliver his answer today. Hoover submitted a long statement immediately.

A difference of opinion developed then in committee as to whether the members should officially go into the Hoover statement introduced by Senator Jones, or delay study of it. It was finally decided after executive session to postpone official deliberation on the communication until later.

The "game" of hucksters, according to Hoover, is to charge eighty cents a bushel and a half of potatoes yesterday, then to give thirty cents and then to give thirty cents and then to give thirty cents.

In all, about \$900,000 from this city will be allowed to return home for a very brief stay, local draft boards have estimated. The number to be allowed passage, it was said, depends upon whether or not General W. J. Donovan, the camp commander, can satisfy forty work out the problem of housing 50 per cent of each separate unit in camp at all times during the holiday period.

That as it was, dispatches from Camp Meade describe the cantonment as all aflutter at the prospect of seeing wives, mothers, sweethearts and friends soon again. More than 20,000 citizens

Philadelphia's first home-coming soldiers from Camp Meade, Md., will be welcomed here tonight.

Christmas-period arrangements are scheduled to go into effect at 6 o'clock this afternoon and the first batch of Philadelphia, if they leave the National Army cantonment at that time, should arrive in this city shortly after 3 o'clock tonight.

About 100 men, it was estimated today, will be in the first contingent to be granted short leaves to visit their homes before going to France. Other increments will be granted passes on succeeding days up to December 27, according to a tentative plan.

CITY BEGINS WAR ON FOOD FRAUDS

Hucksters Who Give Short Weights at Cut Prices to Be Punished

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CAMP MEADE MEN COMING TONIGHT

City Will Welcome First Contingent on Christmas Furlough

TO HAVE SPECIAL TRAINS

Soldiers All Ready for Big Review by Secretary Baker This Afternoon

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Representatives of the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroads are at Camp Meade today arranging the special trains that are to bring the "boys" home. Nothing definite could be learned here as to the makeup of the trains, but it was understood that the specials would be composed of from ten to twelve coaches each for the direct through-run from Camp Meade to Philadelphia.

FULLY ARMED FOR 8000 MEN In all, about \$900,000 from this city will be allowed to return home for a very brief stay, local draft boards have estimated. The number to be allowed passage, it was said, depends upon whether or not General W. J. Donovan, the camp commander, can satisfy forty work out the problem of housing 50 per cent of each separate unit in camp at all times during the holiday period.

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HUGE CHORAL PAGEANT WILL AID RED CROSS

Thousands of Voices to Unite in Song on Broad Street

216,212 NOW ENROLLED

Official Estimate Shows 379,000 Membership Applications Pending in State

TODAY'S RED CROSS FIGURES Southeastern Penna.'s affiliation 20,000 New enrollments recorded 216,212 Official estimate 379,000 Enrollments needed 228,788 Campaign days remaining 3

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter and Pennsylvania leads the States in the nation-wide Christmas campaign for 10,000,000 new members, according to official announcement by E. L. D. Beach, campaign director in Philadelphia.

First official figures in the Christmas campaign for 10,000 new members for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, announced today, showed 216,212 new enrollments since the drive began last Monday.

The figures given out by E. L. D. Beach, campaign director, at headquarters in the Lincoln Building, represent actual memberships actually received. They do not take into account the official estimate of 379,000 enrollments and by J. Heron Crossman, vice chairman of the Pennsylvania division campaign committee.

Two more days today and Monday remain in the campaign that is to end Christmas Eve. Red Cross officials were confident today that the drive would be a success and that memberships not yet received would send the total over the 400,000 mark.

A "choral" pageant of hundreds of people will be held in Broad Street tonight.

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QUICK NEWS

UKRAINIAN COSSACKS MOBILIZED AS REVOLT SPREADS

PETROGRAD, Dec. 22.—Ukrainian troops have taken up positions along the border. All Ukrainian Cossacks have been ordered mobilized and a far-reaching revolutionary movement against the Bolsheviks seemed today to have been set definitely in motion.

PHILADELPHIA WOMAN KILLED IN WASHINGTON

A Washington dispatch states that Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Smith, twenty-five years old, residing in Philadelphia, was killed by an automobile today while returning alone from church.

STRIPPING MEN WIN RISE AND BACK PAY

HAZLETON, Pa., Dec. 22.—Charles P. Neill, of Washington, in a decision handed down here today, rules that stripping employees of the anthracite field working more than eight hours a day must be paid the same proportionate increase granted the company workmen April 25, 1917. The decision carries with it back pay from the latter date.

COAL PROFITEERS MUST REFUND OVERCHARGE

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 22.—Retail coal dealers in more than thirty Minnesota towns will be compelled to make refunds to consumers, in some cases amounting to nearly \$2 a ton, by an order issued from the office of the State Fuel Administration. Profits exceeding the amount allowed by the Federal order of November 1 must be refunded, and dealers are warned by the fuel administration that delay in making proper adjustments will result in severe penalties.

JAPAN DENIES RUSSIAN INTERVENTION PLANS

TOKYO, Dec. 22.—Japan is not considering intervention in Russia, it was formally announced today by the Foreign Office. Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Shidehara asserted no mobilization of Japanese troops for use in Siberia had been ordered or was in contemplation.

THREE AMERICANS NAMED IN CANADA'S CASUALTIES

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 22.—The following American names appear in today's casualty lists: Wounded—G. O. Anderson, New York; P. M. Baxter, Yonkers, N. Y.; Gassed—A. R. Bailey, Staunton, Va.

COAL PRICES SQUARE DEAL POTTER SAYS

Supply and Demand Law Underlies New Rates, Controller Explains

GARFIELD CALLS LEWIS

Philadelphia Chairman Goes to Washington at Federal Administrator's Summons

How Consumer Fares in New Coal Prices

At Retail prices many dealers complain they received only limited profit, and in some cases actual loss.

With the approval given the new move by Francis A. Lewis and William Potter, Philadelphia's coal controller, it was announced that a recommendation that the system be installed here would be forwarded to Washington today by Mr. Potter.

The official request that the \$2.50 gross margin be accepted was contained in a letter from Mr. Lewis to Mr. Potter. He said that he was in full accord with the proposal.

Philadelphia will be the first city in the country to apply Government teaching of \$2.50 a ton between the cost of coal to the dealer and the price asked the consumer, has been requested by the Philadelphia Coal Exchange, which is composed of the majority of the large dealers in the city.

Under the old method of arriving at prices, "cost plus 30 per cent based on 1914 prices," many dealers complained they received only limited profit, and in some cases actual loss.

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TURKEYS AND OTHER GIFTS GALORE BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO WORKERS AT THE STETSON FACTORY.



AIMS TO SMASH MEAT COMBINE

Trade Board on Trail of Vast Conspiracy to Boost Profits

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. To smash the hold of a nation-wide meat trust which is locking the American people was learned today to be the objective of the Federal Trade Commission's food probe.

Sway of the trust extends from the cattle ranches into the open market in an amazing network of controlled banks, stock yards, railroads and middlemen. It is charged.

Swegien profits from food gambling, secret interlocking control, doctored entry books, dummy stockholders and all the camouflage of frenzied finance will be uncovered by the investigation, according to its backers.

It appears from the evidence the commission has in hand that Chicago packers have a working agreement, apparently in direct violation of the Sherman law, under which they agree to a certain extent to keep out of each other's territory.

Thus, one of the big packers will be permitted to have the bulk of the business in Cleveland, for instance, another the Cincinnati business and a third the Pittsburgh business. All of the big packers will have branches in these cities, so as to give the semblance of a competition, but actual selling is carefully apportioned.

\$2,000,000 GIFTS BY BUSINESS MEN

Christmas Bonuses and Other Presents Gladden Holiday for Workers

Many of the big industrial and business firms in and near Philadelphia distributed Christmas bonuses, turkeys and other presents to employees today. The total amount probably reaches close to \$2,000,000.

Leading all, apparently, was the John B. Stetson Company, which disbursed several hundred thousand dollars. The Stetson distribution was made at an entertainment attended by between 5000 and 6000 employees and friends.

The auditorium adjoining the big factory building was jammed to capacity. The building was filled. President J. Howell Cummings presided and superintended the presentation of stock, cash bonuses and between forty and fifty watches, which were awarded for faithful services. The bonuses ranged from \$5 to 20 per cent of salaries and were awarded strictly according to merit.

Mr. Cummings, having gone over the record of every employee with the foremen of the various departments. The firm arranged to give 3000 turkeys to married men. So far only 1900 have been received owing to the freight tie-up. These go to the married men. Seven hundred single men received orders for Stetson hats and about 1200 women received gloves and a box of candy each. These gifts were in addition to bonuses.

Five hundred and forty employees were also started on the road to saving by gifts of shares of Stetson Building and Loan Association. Every person in the employ of the company before December 6 was remembered.

FIRST DRAFT OF CANADIANS TO REPORT JANUARY 3

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 22.—The first draft under the military service act will be called to the colors in the next few days. They will be instructed to report on January 3. The first draft will be in the neighborhood of 20,000 men.

TEXAS AND LOUISIANA OIL STRIKE SETTLED

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 22.—The oilworkers' strike in eighteen Texas and Louisiana fields, affecting more than 10,000 men, has been settled. Verne Zeod, President Wilson's personal representative, announced this today before leaving for Denver. Union representatives left here after an agreement was reached to notify their respective locals as to the details on the settlement, which will be announced from Washington, officially, on Christmas eve.

COP, HEARING SHOTS, SEIZES ENEMY ALIEN

Revolver With Empty Chambers and Wicked Knife Found on Suspect

William Brickert, an enemy alien employed at Cramp's shipyards, was arrested early this morning at the corner of York street and Aramingo avenue by Officer Wilent, of the Trenton and Dauphin streets station, under circumstances surrounded with the deepest mystery.

While patrolling his beat Policeman Wilent heard two shots, and on investigating found Brickert standing on a street corner. The man refused to give any explanation regarding himself and he was searched. A revolver was found in his pocket. It contained four shells, two of which had recently been discharged. The barrel of the revolver was still warm. The man also had a special officer's badge and a wicked-looking knife with a blade six inches long.

CHRISTMAS WEATHER JUST A 50-50 CHANCE

Holiday Will Be Fair—Unless There's Snow or Rain in Store

It is a fifty-fifty chance—the matter of what kind of weather Philadelphia will have Christmas Day.

An estimate of what the weather grab-bag may contain was issued today at the Weather Bureau on the basis of what is known now and what may happen between now and Tuesday. It is probable that there may be light rain or snow in this locality before Christmas, with slightly warmer weather.

"Overcast and cold Monday and Tuesday, moderating somewhat the middle of the week, with light snow about Thursday and fair thereafter with reasonable temperatures," was the official weekly forecast issued at Washington today.

"The appearance of the weather map now leads me to believe that there will be a slight moderation before Tuesday," said George W. Minding, first assistant forecaster here. "A storm area centered in western Canada probably will bring light rain or snow before Christmas, but what the weather will be on that day is as near an even-break as can be. It will not be quite as cold Tuesday as it is now."

Small Fire at Diston Plant

Flames broke out in the saw and fuel works of Henry Diston & Sons, Inc., Tacony, early today, but were put out by the employees' fire company after slight damage had been caused. The blaze was in the rolling mill, where hot iron ignited the floor. The fire was confined to this part of the big plant, which is making army bayonets.

Fire Damages Farm Building

A stove in a one-story brick truck house on the farm of Thomas Broderson, Richmond street and Wiestach lane, became overheated early today and set fire to the interior of the building, causing damage of \$150.

"The Autobiography of a Pennsylvanian" The Life Story of Gov. Samuel W. Pennypacker WILL BE FOUND TODAY on the EDITORIAL PAGE

Succeeding Installments Will Be Printed on the EDITORIAL PAGE Until Further Notice

The Continuation of "LONG LIVE THE KING" By Mary Roberts Rinehart Appears on Page 18