FINANCIAL EDITION Evening Public Tedger NIGHT

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EXTRA

FRANCIS TO MEET DEMOCRATIC "Iron Fist" to Bring Peace to World, Kaiser's Threat TROTSKY CHARGE AMSTERDAM, Dec. 24. "IF THE enemy does not want peace, then we must bring peace to the world by the bat-tering of our iron fist and our shining sword," Kaiset Wilhelm declared in a speech to the Sec-ond Army. PACT OR NONE. U. S. Ambassador Prepar-SAYS TROTSKY ing Explanation of Red declared in a speech to the Sec-ond Army. "Despite three years of war and suffering," the Kaiser con-tonued, "our old offensive spirit is still effective. "This is shown," he added, "by our recent great victories in Flanders and at Cambrai, where the arrogant British first felt the crushing power of our offensive **Cross** Activities Declares Dealings Will RELATIONS STRAINED

End if Teutons Refuse American Envoy Accused of Such Peace Giving Aid to Kaledines's

FEARS REVOLUTION

Hertling's Plans for Russian Agreement Approved by Kaiser's Council

PARIS, Dec. 24. The Russian Bolsheviki want a democratic peace-and if Germany does not agree to that sort of a peace there will be no dealings between Russia and by Foreign Minister Trotsky, reported here roday.

he made to the French embassy it was asserted. He explained to Ambassador Noulens that the Bolsheviki desired the sort of a peace where all peoples were free and might dispose of their own affairs. The French ambassador asked Trotsky

what if the Germans refused this sort of a peace. Trotsky, it was reported, replied under

Trotsky, it was reported, replied under these conditions peace would not be signed, because the Maximalists "might be brought to a revolutionary war." "If public opinion is refractory," Trotsky added, "the constituency should be consulted." The Bolsheviki Foreign Minister as-serted in conclusion that "if the Bol-sheviki succumb anarchy threatens Rus-sia."

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 24 The German Federal Council has ap-porvel Chancellor von Hertling's Russian peace program, according to a Berlin dispatch today. Details of the plan were withheld.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

LONDON. Dec. 24. Russia's Bolsheviki are dreaming the fantastic nightmare of peace at Brest-Litovsk while fighting desperately at home to retain control, according to iatest dispatches today. Petrograd was reported in almost a reign of terror. Soldiers from the gar-risons, drunk with wine from looted shops, indulged in the wildest orgies in the streets. Firing of machine guns and rifles was incessant. The soldiers formed a regular skirmish line in the Marie Theater square and were not Kolpashnikoff.

formed a regular skirming the in the Marie Theater square and were not dispersed until after vigorous fighting in which Bolsheviki guards ran down scores under armored motor cars. The disorder was reported still continuing

disorder was reported still continuing today. Moscow dispatches reported a declara-tion of martial law by the Cossacka. General Kaledines, formally retired from his place as military dictator of the revolt against the Bolsheviki, is urging choice by the rebels of a Government which would be representative of the whole records whole people.

SOCIALIST PEACE PLAN

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 24. Camille Huysmans, the Belgian, So

Counter Revolution crushing power of our offensive blow." American Ambassador Francis announced today he was preparing for publication throughout Russia a full and complete explanation of the incidents in connection with Red Cross efforts to send supplies into regions occupied by ensmite of the Bolsheviki. PETROGRAD, Dec. 24. **RED CROSS GIFT**

paign Will See 540,000

New Members

Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter.

The Red Cross service fing ceremony

will be observed throughout the city

whit be observed infougnout the city tenight-Christmas Eve-when the red, white and blue banners in lighted win-dows will reveal the number of house-holds that have contributed moral sup-port to the Red Cross. More than 400,000 new members have already been enrolled, according to of-ficials. They denied a report from New York that the campaign would be ex-

York that the campaign would be e_{π} -tended to December 29, with 15,000,000

new members instead of 10,000,000 as

te national goal. The returns will be tabulated in Red

"ross headquarters in the Lincoln Build-

ing. The more recent reports have shown big jumps in the figures turned in by the various committees, and there

Secretary Wilson Assures President

Unrest of Labor No Longer Is

a Menace

Continued on Page Five, Column Four

ALL READY FOR TEST

The incident has brought tense rela

tions between the Trotsky-Lenine Gov-ernment and the American Embassy. Colonel Kolpashiltoff, a Russian army officer in charge of Bolsheviki troops End of Christmas Camthe Teutons, according to a statement and attached to the American mission y Foreign Minister Trotsky, reported ere rodny. Trotsky so declared in a visit which e made to the French embassy it which

In a speech before a revolutionary gathering Trotsky formally charged that the American Government was seeking to ald Kaledines against the Bolsheviki and threatened the United States with "the heavy hand of the revolution." Trotsky said:

The neary hand of the revolution." Trotsky said: We found that American agents in Russia were particinating in the Kale-dines movement. We arrested Colonel Kolpashnikoff, attached to the Ameri-can mission in Rumania, who was try-ing to get a trainload of automobiles, clothing and supplies to Rostov. Among the documents was a letter from David R. Francis (American am-bassador to Russia) requesting that the train receive free passage, as it was bound for the mission at Jassy. One letter from Colonel Anderson nhead of the American Red Cross mis-sion to Rumania) to Kolpashnikoff said that if money were needed Ambassa-dor Francis was ready to advance 160.000 rubles on the account of the Red Cross. We think that the Amer-lence now. Since the revolution he has been the most silent diplomat in Petrograd. Evidently he belongs to the Bismarck school, in which it was taught that sience he golden. He must explain his connection with this conspiracy. American Red Cross officials here de-nied the charges that aid was being ex-

nled the charges that aid was being extended Kaledines that he might over-throw the Bolsheviki, and insisted that MAN POWER OF NATION no money had been transmitted through

WASHINGTON DENIES **BOLSHEVIK'S CHARGE**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. Neither the Red Crozs nor American Ambaseador Francis at Petrograd is in Volved in any conspiracy to ald General Kaledines's counter-revolution in Rus-sia, offic'a's declared imphatically today replying to Leon Trotsky's charges that such a plot was afoot. Francis, it was explained, had a per-fect right to request uninterrupted mas

Socialist the Bolsheviki, is urgent a plot was afoot.
Such a plot was afoot.

PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1917

JOHNNY COMES **ITALIANS CHECK** MARCHING HOME **NEW HUN DRIVE**

25,000 of Him From Camps Invaders Cut Front Line, Meade and Dix Here But Wilt Before Fire Today of Big Guns

MANY SPECIAL TRAINS KAISER'S BOAST FAILS

Venice Balked by Brave

Defense

ROME, Dec. 24.

Mothers, Wives and Sweet- Plan to Celebrate Christmas in hearts Rejoice at Christmas Greeting From Soldier Boys

Johnny comes marching home today, about 25,000 of him, from Camp Meade and Camp Dix and the other camps where he has been getting ready for the fight with the Hun. A strong Teuton attack launched in the western sector of the Asiago plateau. especially at Buse and Montevabelia,

the fight with the Hun. Johnny comes marching home for the Christmas holidays only. He'll be back in camp in a few days to keep on with his preparations for the little argument with the Hun. Mother, wife and sweets heart will meet him at the station and Johnny will have the biggest Christmas he ever had in his life. He'll remember this Christmas, will Johnny, for nobody knows where he'll be next Christmas. Johnny may be gone for a long, long time Perhaps Johnny will not see an-other Christmas. But Johnny comes marching home to

LIST RESULTS TONIGHT The hig Red Cross drive will end to-day, and it is virtually assured that Philadelphia is joyful. He will see an a second of the risk and show and a desperate dephia is joyful. He will see the ser-day, and it is virtually assured that Philadelphia and the surrounding terri-tory will have encolled more than the 540.006 members apportioned to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter.

hanny. The Pennsylvania Railroad alone is transporting 15,000 Johnnies from Camp Meade and Camp Dix to Philadelphia. Transporting 15,000 men for a dis-Continued on Page Five Column Five Continued on Pane Five, Column One

HIS CHRISTMAS WILL BE HAPPY

COPTRIGHT, 1917, ST THE PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

QUICK NEWS

SOLDIER HOME FOR CHRISTMAS HIT BY AUTO

Carl Tobin, twenty-one years old, of 5517 Sprague street, home from Camp Meade for Christmas, is in the Germantown Hospital suffering from concussion of the brain caused by an automobile accident at Chew street and Locust avenue, Germantown. His condition is said to be critical.

THREE FIREMEN HURT IN \$200,000 GARAGE FIRE

MILWAUKEE. Dec. 24 .- Three firemen were seriously injuted and thirty automobiles were burned when fire of unknown origin destroyed the Boynston Auto Livery Company here early today. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

WAR SECRETARY'S CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS greetings to American soldiers were voiced today by Secretary of War Baker in the following message to the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER:

Let me extend through your columns to the men of our forces the greetings of the War Department and my own well wishes.

Ours is a nation which has greater love for the Prince of Pence than the God of War, and only to the attainment of a permanent, liberalized peace may our martial efforts be directed. NEWTON D. BAKER.

FOOD TRUST PROBE TO BE VIGOROUSLY PUSHED

funeral. "Now," he said, waxing warm, " Christmas was the most bountiful P delphia ever saw, and yet I'm to wager that when totals are rech this Christmas will be just a little WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 .-- Vigorous prosecution of the food trust investigation was declared by the Federal Trade Commission at a conference with Special Prober Francis J. Heney today. The trail of the alleged trust, uncovered at the preliminary meat hearings, will be followed up by further sessions in Boston, New York and possibly another eastern city, probably before the new year, it was announced.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 24 .- The Supreme Court today unanimously upheld the constitutionality of the State road tax law. The opinion, written by Justice Bergen, declares the title of the act to be sufficient.

received an overwhelming vote of confidence in the chamber of deputies today. This vote, it was pointed out, emphasizes Italy's unity with the war aims of the Aliles and the united support of the people to the Government's policy to fight until victory is achieved.

ITALY TO TRAIN AVIATORS IN U.S.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 24 -- Italy is planning to send a number of skilled airplane pilots and aviation students to the U. ted States for training purposes next year, due to the superior facilities in America, it was learned today.

PRESIDENT REMEMBERS EMPLOYES AND CHILDREN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—One hundred and twenty-five turkeys went to employes of the White House today—each a gift from the President. Out on the Virginia road leading to the President's favorite golf course fifty kid-net. President of the Philadelphia Li-Dealers' Association, said. "This is be visited tomorrow by one of the big White House machines laden Dealers' Association, said.

Everybody predicted that it e possibly happen. "War." they wisely, "is war"; but they neglecte **GREETINGS TO U.S. SOLDIERS** add that Christmas is Christman. More men than it is advis WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. think about, if this is to be a Christmas, have Jain stark and cold the battlefields of Europe since the Christmas came and went, but old I Claus, the indefatigable, is still "The calamity howlers tried to him this year." the manager of the big department stores said, be

ing, "but they couldn't. They mid t business was going to pleces; that pe weren't in the mood for Christm

JERSEY SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS ROAD TAX LAW

ITALIAN MINISTRY WINS BIG VOTE OF CONFIDENCE wares wont up several hundred per ROME, Dec. 24.-The Italian Ministry, headed by Premier Orlando, well satisfied with what their



this Christmas will be just a little ter. "At any rate," he concluded, "I et iell you accurately that the combi-business of the big department sho will be at least \$13,000,000 worth." The majority of the merchanis wearing the broad smiles that p perity brings. A runh business in h furniture, jewelry, books and clothin reported, and it is estimated that other \$13,000,000 must be added to first if these articles, plus the sold by the specialty shops, are counted. Even the leather men, the wares went up several hundred per

everything seemed as somber as

NIGHT

EXTRA

PRICE TWO CE

FATHER PEN

PURSE LIGH

BY \$30,000,0

Philadelphia Shopper

Christmas List Long

WAR NO BAR TO GIV

Storekeepers Report Reco Sales and Only Calamity

Howler Is Not Merry

By M'LISS

Father Penn's pocketbook has

to sag. By tonight an utter coll

expected. Statisticians have

that something like \$30,000,000 or

was put into it several weeks an

very penny of it will have been

that by the time the weary she close their accounts tonight

Than Ever Before

show. The confectioners, however, and to one of the leading ones in Originia will show a decrease in business the banner year of 1918. "I sho. I say that our business show a fail of at least a time Christman," he said frankly. "The shortage did not hurt us directly is to say, we were able to get plu of sugar for our products, but patriotic reasons people are not hus so much sweet stuff this year. Howe a good deal was sent away to the diers, and that was encouraging to business." business. Liquor men are also candid in a

mover ir. efforts to hold an international Socialist peace gathering, said today the Bolahevik peace endeavors seemed likely to postpone indefinitely all hope of a peo-ple's movement for real peace.

pleas movement for real peace. "I do not believe the Lenine regime in Russia is favorable to a democratic just peace," he declared. "The Lenin-ites cannot accept German proposals withowt a surrender, and the German Government cannot accept the Leninite conceptions without revolutionizing it-self.

"Prospects of a separate peace have increased ambitions of the Central Pow-ers. The Teutonic annexationists under-stand perfectly that the Lenine negotiations are only an intermezzo. They know these will surely disorganize all possible these will surely disorganize all possible Russian resistance—and then Hinden-burg will be able not only to send the heaviest reinforcements to France, but easily to conquer Russia. Democratic elements in the Central Powers feel this increase of annexationist spirit. Hunga-rian Socialists understood the situation when they voted against a separate neares

"Nobody should attach the least im portance to the German agreement not to transfer troops during the period of the armistice. Germany's best troops on the Russian front are already marching

"Russia is now under a new Czarist regime which foreign Socialists have "charge" expenses.

Continued on Page Five. Column Sever

BRUMBAUGH FILLS POSTS HARRISBURG, Dec. 24.—Governor Brumbaugh today appointed Henry G Washon judge in Allepheny County and promoted Emerson Collins, Williamsport to post of Deputy attorney General, for-merly filled by Horace W. Davis, Sharon. at \$5000. Edmund K. Trent, Pittsburgh, was named to succeed Collins.

THE WEATHER

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity : Partla cloudy tonight, with moderate tempe ature; Tuesday unsettled, with probably rain or snow, followed by colder at night; fresh south and east winds, becoming westerly Tuesday night.

Low water. 4:48 a m. | Low water. 5:25 p.m. High water.10:18a.m. High water.1":35p.m. <u>TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUS</u> 81 4:10(11)121 '. 21 3 4 5 87. 38:41 41:42 42 41 41 Tomorrow Christmas Day

There Will Be No Issue of the vening Public Led



Food Administrator Sets Birthday of King Some-Market Figure at 37 to. what Saddened for Sol-47 Cents Per Pound diers' Families

NEW SHIPMENTS ARRIVE POOR ARE REMEMBERED

The food administrator's new price Tomorrow will be the birthday of ; Cing. f from thirty-seven to forty-seven

He was a King who never wore purents a pound for turkey, a reducple and fine linen, nor any crown but ion of three to five cents on various me of thorns; who wielded no golden rades, due to the arrival of a few and merciless scepter over oppressed carloads last night and today, came ubjects; who never sent His legiona too late to help most householders "orth to kill; who loved alike those who in the city. Virtually every dealer naid Him, homage and those who haid Him, homage and those who noted His downfall and death. He Was a King. Tortured. He interceded for mercy for H⁴ torturers. They crucified Him, but they could not kill Him. He is a King. Philadelphia, with the rest of the world will celebrate it his hirthday. It will celebrate it for the most part by giving gifts and doing good deeds. It will celebrate it by being merry in a rolemn sort of way and by trying to make others so. There will be a deeper solemnity about it than in recent years. for the war has come home to more of us. It will be a Christmas Day of mingled sadness and joy—joy because the spirit of Jesus Christ and Christmas still lives, sadness because the spirit with which Jesus Christ has nothing in common has put so much misery into the world. CARROLS BY CORNETISTS sold at one to five cents higher than

CARROLS BY CORNETISTS

The silvery notes of the cornet this

the price set by the local food administrator, saying that the higher

"charge" expenses.

After a thorough investigation into the supply of turkeys Jay Croke, the local food administrator, lowered the orice to thirty-seven to forty-seven cents a pound today. Early in the day re-norts were received that turkeys were for sale as high as fifty-five cents in Chestique Hill. This price, however, did not last long owing to the distribution of several carloads of birds from the South and Southwest.

and Southwest. Following are the prices set by Mr.

looke's committee:

No price was set for cold storage birds wing to the fact that there were vir-tually none on the market. The supply "cosived at the express offices was quick-ly distributed and brought down prices all over the city.

The three express companies reported early today that their combined arrivals, they thought, would run as high as twenty carloads of birds.

Rittenhouse Square. Community singing in many sections of the city will accompany the close of day, and as the eve of Christmas fails church bells will chime with the twenty carloads of birds. There was a general scarcity of birds throughout the city early today and the prices would undoubtedly have been much higher than they were this morning had it not been for the food administration and its warnings against r lising prices. There were virtually no turkeys in Man-ayunk early today, but the prices ran from thirty-eight to fifty cents a pound. In Germantown the prices ranged from thirty-siz to fifty-two cents a pound and in Chestnut Hill the range was from thirty-lyes to fifty-five cents a pound. The highest prices quoted in West Phila-deiphis were fifty cents, but the pre-valing price was around forty-five to forty-sight cents a pound. Prices in the center of the city ran from thirty-five to firty cents with most of the birds The auxiliary's comfort committee will place of the League Island nevel based of James Francis Cooke, of Philadelphia. America's fighters now stationed in this city will see Philadelphia in the role of Santa Claus for them. A huge Christmas tree will be erected at the en-trance of the Philadelphia Navy Yard for the thousands of bluejackets and ma-rines at the League Island neval base. The auxiliary's comfort committee will place Christmas trees in every ward at the Naval Hospital on Grays Parry ave-ma, and members, based by Line



there booms large in the thoughts of every soldier boy at the happy Yuletide season, whether he spends the holidays at his own fireside or in camp, and the Christmas tokens of loved ones are transmuted into treasures of rarest value by the magic of the season. The soldier here about to discover what the "home folks" have sent him is Vincent Mahoney, 304th En-gineers, Company B, at Camp Meade.

WAR COUNCIL LIMITS HAIG BEATS BACK GARFIELD COAL HLAN GERMAN RAIDERS

Contends State Boards Have Repulse of Hostile Parties at Interfered With Munition Industries

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.

afternoon will call to mind the approach Broad powers given by Doctor Garof the natal day. Four cornetists, enfield to State fuel administrators must gaged by an unnamed benefactor, will stand at the four corners of Indepen-dence Square at 4 p. m. and play "America." "O Little Town of Bethle-hem." "Silent Night" and "It Cime Upon the Midnight Clear." At 6 p. m. the music, substituted for the community tree celebration, will be repeated in Pitterbuars Source.

tion of war essentials is to proceed un-interruptedly. Under Doctor Garfield's decentralisa-tion plan Stite administrators were au-thorized to use their own discretion in taking coal from industries to be used by domestic consumers. State admin-istrators, using this power, in some cases limited coal supplies to industries mak-ing war essentials. The super war council decided specific

The super war council decided specific instructions must be issued to State ad-ministrators before the next cold wave, as to just which industries may be abut down and which must be kept going to aroduce Government supp

Sixth Fire in One Place in Year About \$500 worth of damage was done to the feed store of Max Kramer, 5505-07 Market street, this morning by fire. This fire, which is the sixth to occur on the property within the last year, started in the third floor and

with toys and candy. These are the children who daily salute the Presiden as he journeys to his game.

ALLIES PREPARE OFFENSIVE IN BALKANS

PARIS, Dec. 24 .- Intimation that the Allies are planning an offensive campaign in the Balkans was contained today in the official announcement that General Sarrail, allied commander-in-chief on the Macedonian front, has been succeeded by General Gulliamet.

BAKER SEES DANGER **RAINBOW BOYS WELL** IN PEACE SCHEMING AND HAPPY IN FRANCE Secretary Warns American Not Yet Under Fire, but Ready People Against Germany's for Call of Battle Insidious Propaganda U. S. MUST KEEP PLEDGE MEN WELL SUPPLIED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. German's insidious Christmas peace propaganda "should not for a moment induce us to slacken our preparations "Over there." where hate and horror dwell, Americans of the Rainbow Di-vision and other units this Christmas ide are anxious for battle.

Secretary of War Baker's weekly war Only a small part of the United States forces has been tested by fire, but re-morts to the War Department showed to-Secretary of War Baker's weekly war summary volced this warning today, pointing out clearly that Germany now is trying to knock Italy out of the fight while at the same time she is testing out the west front preliminary to what has been heralded as a big offensive. ports to the War Department showed to-day that training is proceeding so well that when the call of battle comes the Rainbow—showing the colors of nearly all the States—along with other organ-izations will give good account of them-selves as Americans have always done. The Rainbow boys are well and happy, at least as happy as a set of men could be whose steps stray far from home in the holiday season. They are well sup-plied, too. The knickknacks from home have arrived and have been distributed, but even were they not, the Sammees He warned, too, that America's por-ion of the struggle is vist and that "our

armies constitute the reserves of vic-

but even were they not, the Samme would not want. "We can get everything here that we would have at home," wrote the son of General Frank H. McIntyrs, armys cen-

armies constitute the reserves of vic-tory." On the subject of Teuton feelers and America's task, the Secretary said: "It would appear that as a forerun-ner to the German offensive heralded to be launched in the West, an intensive peace propaganda is under way. Of-ficials here see in the Russo-German gathering at Brest-Litovsk an effort by Germany to effect separate peace with Russia during the holidays for the psy-chological effect on other nations. "Careful examination of the situa-tion reveals that the enemy is again nreparing to sue for 'peace before vic-tory,'" Baker said. "Information from various sources confirms the reports that the Germans would have the world believe that they are able to dictate the terms of peace. They, therefore, threat-ened that unless this dictated peace is accepted by the Alilled Powers and our-seives, the German forces now being concentrated on the western front will break through the Aliled line in the west. General Frank H. McIntyrs, army cen-sor, today, responding to a letter asking that he say just what he really needed or wanted on Christmaa. Incidentally, both McIntyre and Sec-retary Baker approved the publication of a story about the Rainbow troops. Secretary Baker held it would be proper to have a Christmas announcement that "the Rainbow Division is in France and has been there for some time." General McIntyre, censor, thought, too, a Christ-mas message about that body was proper, despite restrictive rules or, pub-lication of arrival of units abroad, num-bers and location.

Dealers' Association, said. "This is a I believe, not so much to a prohibit sentiment, or to the fact that has in uniform are not permitted to served, but to the war tax on spirits. "The people are not yet used to increased prices. The tax has ma-drinking more expensive than it was before, and the people are balling siloom away that might be around." Mr. Bonner added that effe liquer and a right good will to Red Cross was and other war work. "And we're not bothering about of the House did in passing the prohibi-til, because it's got that asymp-clause tacked onto it." Automobiles, electrical applianees a tewlidering variety, talking machine red rds and planos also "want go despite the predictions of conservations The Spug, too, reappeared this y in our midst. Indeed the Society the prevention of Useless Giving and to have swelled its membership. found them, these Spugs, by the us-sands in three departments where useful things are found and they the mured to themselves phrases source like these: "He wanted a set of George Means but he's away at camp now, and hunderwear of the best quality would on the smalle." Or,

"It isn't reasonable to think the Government will be able to provid with fur-lined gloves, so I'll just him those.

with full-index." Or, "She wanted an evening wrap, be I said to father, what good will the her now, with Tom away? Til se What "with the thrift stamps and thousands of military gifts with us the with the thrift stamps and thousands of military gifts with us it will be stuffed, Santa's pack is pected to present a highly patriotic pearance when he comes forth ten Foodulfs have been purchased to tune of several millions according to guardians of precious and costly est fortunately the American Christ menu is one that can be consumed soup to nuts without throwing the Heover or Howard Heins and Jay of into nervous prostration. It is " "and drink and be patriotic" into nervous prostration. It is to "eat, drink and be patriotic ninds being meatless and

days has been proclaimed?

"The Autobiography Pennsylvania The Life Story of Gov. Samuel W. P. WILL BE FOUND T

on the

selves, the German forces now being concentrated on the western front will break through the Allied line in the "The various reports of immediate peace proposals by the Germans on seeming favorable terms should not for a moment induce us to slacken our prop-arations for war. "It is only mecessary for us to recall that during the Christmas season of last year the Germans put forth very similar peace runors. "Th considering the general military situation in its true light it must be understined that the Germans realise that the force of the general military situation in its two light it must be that withou a stort time ear same with

EDITORIAL PAG Succeeding Installments Printed on the EI PAGE Until Further N

The Continu

"LONG LIVE T

Several Points on British Line Reported

LONDON, Dec. 24. Repulse of hostile raids from several sections of the British line was reported by Field Marshai Haig today.

"Southeast of Epchy yesterday after-noon." he said, "the enemy attempted a raid and was driven off. In the neighborhood of Monchy le Preux and west of La Bassee other hostile parties

were repulsed." PARIS, Dec. 24. From December 21 to 23 French air fighters brought down eighteen German aircraft in aerial encounters behind the German lines. The official statement today mentioned many wide bombing raids on stations and camps behind the energy front.

nemy front. On the right bank of the Meuse at

Bezonvaux and Caurieres Wood French troops repulsed raids. On the left bank, the statement said, artillerying was active around Bethincourt.

Skating Continues Good

There is skating today on the Fair-mount Park lakes and the Wissahlokon Creek from Ridge avenue to Kitchen's

for war.'