

GERMANS TESTING ALLIES' DEFENSES Continue "Feeling Out" Whole Western Front With Raids OFFENSIVE EXPECTED

Considerable enemy artillery cast of heavy shells during the night and reports of heavy fighting in the west of the Marne was reported today by Field Marshal Haig.

Germany is still "feeling out" the whole western front with strong raids, and is taking place daily. All the way from the North Sea to the Swiss Alps raiding detachments are thrusting against the Allied line, testing its strength and taking prisoners for the purpose of seeking information as to the number of reserve troops and the supply of artillery munitions on hand.

Military men expressed the opinion today that the increased raiding activities is a preliminary to an offensive and that the Germans have two objects in view: First, to confuse the Allies as to the exact point of attack; second, to find the weakest point on the allied battle line.

Heavy artillery dueling continues, especially west of Flanders, on the Arras front, and in Champagne. With their operations held up by cold weather and snow in the Venetian Alps, the Austro-Germans invaders in Italy have renewed their efforts to force a crossing of the Piave River, on the Venetian plains.

According to detailed information received at Petrograd, the Germans are massing troops opposite Dvinsk, on the Msta River, 122 miles southeast of Tiflis. This is understood to have influenced the interruption of the Russo-German peace negotiations.

GRILL HOOVER AGAIN IN PROBE OF SUGAR

Chairman Reed Questions Food Administrator; Bitter Feeling Still Apparent

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Herbert Hoover, food administrator, was upon the stand again today when the Senate subcommittee investigating the sugar shortage took up its work.

Chairman Reed, who up to today had taken no part in the examination of Hoover, questioned the food administrator at length. Senator Reed is in a hostile mood toward Hoover, and his questioning was full of insinuation.

Some outstanding fact that has been brought out by the entire sugar investigation is that the food bill will be up for amendment before many weeks of the present Congress have elapsed.

Investigation of the sugar shortage is scheduled to end today. The committee will then take up again its investigation of the coal shortage.

Man in Army, Girl Takes Poison

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Jan. 3.—Deputy coroner because her sweetheart joined the aviation corps, Miss Grace Carver swallowed poison and is in Hagerstown hospital in a critical condition.

Galvanized Boat Pumps

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THERE'S A striking idea for a booklet, for each of a dozen lines of business, in "No. 741"—a page of our Aladdin Book of Artistic Covers. Ask your printer or ask us.

CHARLES BECK COMPANY 309 Chestnut Street Philadelphia

830 Big British Ships Sunk Since April 15

Table with columns: Month, Tons, Ships, etc. Total: 615, 212

CONGRESS WAITS WILSON'S WORD

Railroad Message Will Start Wheels of Legislation Moving

TWO POINTS AT ISSUE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Congressmen returned to Washington today after the holiday recess and promptly pulled out a sliding scale of signals from President Wilson.

Tomorrow the President will deliver his railroad legislation message and ask that it be given a clear track until it is carried out in its entirety.

Two chief points of controversy will be the three-year average suggested by the President as the basis for paying the railroads and the question of getting back the Government money invested in new equipment.

NORFOLK FIRE STARTS AFRESH; SPY HUNT ON

City Still Under Military Guard as Search for Teuton Incendiary Continues

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 3.—Fire started anew early today in the ruins of Norfolk's business section, threatening to spread to other structures and renew the conflagration of Tuesday.

Meantime, authorities had not relaxed their hunt for Teuton spies thought responsible for the original fire with its \$2,000,000 destruction.

Cigar Stamps Swell Revenue

YORK, Pa., Jan. 3.—Receipts at the internal revenue office in this city during December were \$148,211, an increase of \$2,000 over those of the corresponding month of 1917.

PLAN UNIVERSAL RAILWAY TICKET

McAdoo Board Favors Interchange Under New Government System

GOOD ON ALL LINES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—All mileage, commutation and other passenger tickets which they are issued are to be made interchangeable under the new system of Government control of all the transportation lines.

This is one of the matters right ahead of the Director General McAdoo and his staff for decision, one of Mr. McAdoo's assistants admitted today, and predicted that affirmative action will be taken on it when it is reached.

"The question of making all passenger railroad tickets interchangeable was one of the matters before the meeting of our advisory board today," said this member of the Director General's staff, "and it was put off for fuller discussion and decision at a later date."

Comment made by railroad men regarding the plan indicates that the railroads will interpose no objection to making passenger tickets interchangeable.

"I see no reason why the railroad should object to the plan," said a prominent railroad man today. "So long as the Government guarantees the railroads a return on their investment equal to their average earnings of the last three years it will make no difference to the railroads who sells and who receives the mileage, commutation or other tickets."

"To make passenger tickets interchangeable would be of more benefit to Philadelphia than perhaps to any other large city except New York," said Congressman Moore. "When the change is made mileage held by Philadelphiaans will be used over either the Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and Reading or Baltimore and Ohio, whichever train starts first. Today, when a person holds a ticket over one line he must wait and see several trains depart over another line before he can start."

Both houses planned early adjournment today out of respect to members who died in the recess, Senator Newlands, of Nevada, and Representative Bathrick, of Ohio.

Stop Radiator Freeze-ups

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U-BOAT TAKES ITSELF INTO PORT A CAPTIVE

Makes Way Through Mines by Trailing After Fleeing Transport

MANNED BY MUTINEERS

Men Had Killed Officers and Sought Safety in Hands of Allies

PARIS, Jan. 3.—The story of how a German submarine "captured itself" after the crew had mutinied and killed the officers, was told here today. Incidentally it gives a picture of life in the German submarine fleet.

A certain United States army transport, after disembarking American soldiers at a port in France, started to return across the Atlantic. When a few hours off the French coast a periscope of a submarine was sighted.

The transport started its course and cruised back and forth on short "tacks," but failed to shake the U-boat. After vainly trying to dodge the underwater boat the transport turned and steamed back to port at full speed.

It was observed that the submarine, now dead astern, followed the transport and by keeping in its wake escaped the mines and bombs anchored along both sides of the narrow channel into which the ship turned.

Right into the harbor the submarine followed the transport and when safely inside, and just as several shore batteries and destroyers were about to open fire, the forward hatch of the submarine flew open and a man with a white flag in his hand emerged. In a few minutes several others appeared on the deck, all waving white flags in token of surrender.

The French and Americans put out in small boats and gathered in the captives. Then they waited off the transport coast to secure the first vessel coming out. They towed the vessel in all probability would turn back and the Germans wanted to use it as a guide.

The sailors of the submarine said they had been forced to put to sea against their wishes, that they were badly fed

AIMS TO FILL ARMY FROM CLASS ONE MEN

Crowder Urges Registration of Minors Matured Since First Draft

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Immediate registration for military service of all men who have become twenty-one years of age since the first draft registration was urged today by Provost Marshal General Crowder in his annual report to the secretary of War.

If this is done and similar registrations held each year, 100,000 physically fit men of class one, the Provost Marshal General stated, will be available for service every twelve months and this would not necessitate taking men from deferred exemption classes.

Philadelphia in Officers' Camp JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 3.—Private Joseph W. McFrame, 403 North Forty-second street, Philadelphia, leaves Camp Johnston today for the officers' training camp at Chickamauga Park.

OFFERS ECONOMY A TARGET

Limousine "Auto Show Marks Apex of Luxury

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—In connection with discussion as to eliminating unnecessary luxuries, a limousine exhibited by the automobile show here today is fitted out especially for use of a feminine passenger as follows: Deep-cushioned "armchair" seats, knitting lamper imbedded in rich upholstery; inlaid mahogany case containing notebook, cardigan, clock, reading glasses and perfume bottles; similar mahogany box containing electric cigarette lighter, and special pockets for shoes and mittens.

J. E. CALDWELL & CO.

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THE HANDY ORCHESTRA'S Jazz Dance Blues on

Columbia Records

Old Mr. Jazz himself has been out-jazzed! The trick has been turned by the sweet note in novelty, the last word in wizardry, the big, sweeping sensation of the hour—the most delicious dance music of the day.



THE muffled boom of the tom-tom flirts with the crash of barbaric cymbals; the hollow moan of weirdly swept strings is overwhelmed as jungle-land's wild symphony swells to its maddest height.

Through it all, the fierce rhythm, the frenzied swing of a super-syncope that is sweeping the dance-world into a vortex of new delight. The Jazz Dance Blues are here!

W. C. Handy, of Memphis, Tenn., is the originator and composer of these famous "Blues" successes. The Handy Orchestra of southern negro musicians plays "Blues" dance numbers as no other orchestra ever could.

This unique organization makes records exclusively for Columbia. You want its Jazz Dance Blues records for your party—they'll make it a success. You will respond to these records, whether you dance or not—they're great!

Jazz Dance Blues, by Handy Orchestra of Memphis, Tenn.

Livery Stable Blues - Fox-trot (A2419) 10-inch 75c

The Seaky Blues - Fox-trot (A2421) 10-inch 75c

The Hooking Cow Blues - Fox-trot (A2420) 10-inch 75c

Old Town Pump - Fox-trot (A2417) 10-inch 75c

Sweet Child - One-step (75c)

Fuzzy Wuzzy - One-Step (75c)

A Bunch of Blues - Fox-trot (A2416) 10-inch 75c

Moonlight Blues - Waltz (75c)

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In this Big Perry Semi-Annual Sale of Fall & Winter Suits and Overcoats

Think of our original low Regular Prices if you want to get the full significance of what this sale means for you!

At their Regular Prices, these Perry Suits and Overcoats were already Bargains!

They were actually worth more than we were selling them at during the regular season! We had stocked up on the woollens before the recent advances, and we had marked them in accordance with a square deal—letting our customers have the benefit of our foresightedness!

OVERCOATS

The finest \$60 Overcoats are reduced!

The finest \$50 Overcoats are reduced!

The finest \$40 Overcoats are reduced!

The \$35 and \$38 Overcoats are reduced!

The \$28 and \$30 Overcoats are reduced!

The \$20 and \$25 Overcoats are reduced!

The \$15 and \$18 Overcoats are reduced!

SUITS

The \$43 and \$45 Suits are reduced!

The \$38 and \$40 Suits are reduced!

The \$30 and \$35 Suits are reduced!

The \$25 and \$28 Suits are reduced!

The \$18 and \$20 Suits are reduced!

Military Uniforms—Officers' Suits, Officers' Overcoats, Sheepskin-lined and Fur-trimmed Overcoats are reduced!

Separate Trousers are reduced! Dress Vests and Fancy Vests are reduced!

A Great Big, Comprehensive Reduction Sale of Suits and Overcoats of every kind!

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