

TURK FLEET KILLS 100 RUSSIANS

Bombards Environs of Batum, a Seaport of the Czar on the East Coast of Black Sea

GREAT GOTTORP BARRACKS BURN

Completely Destroyed by Fire, Origin of Which is Kept Secret—Barracks Were Situated on an Island About 25 Miles From Kiel

London, Dec. 12, 12:25 P. M.—A dispatch received here from Constantinople by way of Berlin, says a Turkish fleet yesterday bombarded the environs of Batum, the Russian seaport on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. One hundred Russians were killed and a number were wounded by the fire.

Copenhagen, Dec. 12, via London, 8:27 A. M.—News has been received here that the great Gottorp barracks near Kiel have been completely destroyed by fire, the origin of which is kept secret.

The Gottorp barracks are about 25 miles northwest of Kiel on an island which lies between the Schlei and Burg Sea. The old ducal Schloss Gottorp is the main building of these barracks.

DRESDEN, SOLE SURVIVOR OF GERMAN FLEET, SUNK BY BRITISH, OFF PATAGONIA

London, Dec. 12, 1:06 P. M.—A dispatch to the "Evening News" from Valparaiso, Chile, says it is reported that the German cruiser Dresden has taken refuge in an inlet on the coast of Patagonia.

The Dresden is the only vessel of the German squadron which met the British fleet in the South Atlantic December 8 that has not been accounted for.

The engagement of December 8, off the Falkland Islands, resulted in the destruction of the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig. Later it was announced that the Nürnberg also had been destroyed.

The Dresden escaped from the encounter and was supposed to have fled to the westward. This would take her to the coast of Patagonia, where the Valparaiso report places her. Patagonia and the Straits of Magellan offer numerous bays and inlets where a vessel could hide or take refuge. There are also some Chilean ports in this part of South America where a warship could intern.

British warships doubtless are in pursuit of the Dresden from the Atlantic side of the Straits of Magellan and it is said that Japanese cruisers are watching the Pacific or western entrance on the strait, in case she should attempt again to enter the South Pacific.

FRENCH TROOPS OCCUPY WEST BANKS OF THE YSER CANAL, STATES REPORT

Paris, Dec. 12, 2:46 P. M.—The French official bulletin given out in Paris this afternoon says that French troops now occupy the west bank of the Yser canal.

Artillery engagements, all of them resulting more or less advantageously to the French, are reported in the region of Arras near Nampted, in the Ardennes, in the region of Perthes, near the forest of La Gruerie on the heights of the Meuse, and in the Vosges.

The text of the communication follows: "The enemy has completed the evacuation of the west bank of the Yser canal to the north of the house of the Frynman, and we occupy this bank. "In the region of Arras there have

KAISER, ILL FROM EXPOSURE, IS NOW ON ROAD TO RECOVERY



EMPEROR WILLIAM II

London, Dec. 12.—The condition of Kaiser Wilhelm was improved to such an extent to-day that he was permitted to sit up for a few hours, dispatches received here, via The Hague, state.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—The Kaiser's illness is due entirely to exposure while visiting his armies in the field. He has remained at the front almost constantly since the war began, and has visited the battlefields under all conditions, whether good or bad. Those close to the court to-day declared that his repeated

visits and consequent exposure during inclement weather caused him to contract a cold, resulting in the present catarrhal infection of the throat.

An official statement as to the Kaiser's condition, issued to-day, states that His Majesty is considerably improved. The official announcement declares that the catarrh has subsided. The Kaiser's temperature is normal, and he was able to-day to receive reports from the Chief of the General Staff. The improvement in His Majesty's condition set in last night and continued to-day.

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BROKERS THROUGH FLOOR AT OPENING

Wall Street Again Scene of Activity as Trading in Stocks Is Resumed

900 PRESENT AS THE GONG SOUNDS

Not in Many Years Has Such a Crowd of Brokers Been on the Floor Waiting for the Signal to Resume Business

New York, Dec. 12.—Wall Street came into its own to-day. The Stock Exchange closed for nearly four and a half months, except for limited trading in bonds during the past two weeks was reopened at 10 o'clock this morning for active trading in stocks. One hundred and ninety-two issues were approved by the governors for trading and, though other issues were barred, notably U. S. Steel, activity on the floor of the exchange revived memories of big days ten years ago.

Not for many years has there been such a throng of brokers on the floor as that which waited patiently for nearly an hour to-day for the signal to resume trading. There are 1,100 members of the Exchange and nearly 900 of these, it is estimated, were on the floor. Many of the others, smiling down, with their families and friends, from the members' gallery on the west wall.

The visitors' gallery across the way on the west side was thronged. Half or more of the hundreds who gazed down at the unusual scene on the floor were women.

The first chime of Trinity Church's 10 o'clock bells has long been the signal for something the opening gong on the floor of the Exchange. As the church clock struck, a wave of cheering rippled over the Exchange and swelled to a vast roar as the gong clattered noisily in response. The volume of sound that echoed through the building has not been equalled for many a day.

Almost before the metallic echoes of the gong ringing, the cheering had died down to a great hum and the hundreds of brokers were grouping themselves on the floor.

HEN CROWS IN MORNINGS

Gifted Barnyard Fowl in Carlisle Also Lays Double Yoked Eggs and Has Other Accomplishments

Carlisle, Dec. 12.—Mrs. Eleanor Madden, who lives on East North streets, has a hen that with the break of day each morning answers the challenge of the father of the flock with a crow as loud and clear as his, and also produces eggs—and double-yoked ones at that.

Although this peculiarly gifted fowl is almost a year old its rare accomplishments only recently became known. The family has not attempted to give a name to the prodigy except to refer to the hen as the prize of the poultry yard.

The hen's crowing like a rooster and laying of double yoked eggs are not the only peculiarities she has. Since the fowl became a regular egg producer the Madden family have kept a close watch on her and although they frequently have been at the henery when she leaves the nest they yet have not heard the customary "cackle."

100 BALLOTS READY FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Members Will Again Attempt to Organize This Evening—Both Candidates for Presidency Say They Will Fight It Out

Unless the School Board succeeds in breaking the deadlock at the special meeting this evening, there is likely to be serious inconvenience in getting out the warrants for the Christmas pay of the teachers in the local district. Assurances have been given, however, that steps will be taken, if no president is elected, of having some one authorized in his place to sign the salary warrants.

Seventy-eight ballots have already been taken without result and Secretary D. D. Hammelbaugh has prepared one hundred ballots for to-night's session. The directors have agreed as a matter of courtesy not to schedule a meeting unless all of the members can be present and Saturday night was selected for that purpose.

As the matter now stands and if no election is held to-night, it is not believed that a meeting time before the next regular board meets next Friday night will suit all of the members and that will necessitate the authorizing of a member to act as president to sign the warrants. By organizing temporarily at each meeting the board could continue the deadlock indefinitely and at the present time there is no indication of any of the candidates withdrawing. Both Harry A. Boyer and Adva D. Houtz say they will not withdraw. The Rev. Dr. William N. Yates is not a candidate.

WOULD ADD \$50,000,000 TO ASSESSED VALUATION OF PROPERTIES IN CITY

SOL COMES UP SMILING AT APPOINTED TIME TO-DAY

Clear Weather for the First Time in Two Weeks Brings Out Great Army of Christmas Shoppers—In- creasing Cloudiness To-morrow

For the first time in two weeks fair weather prevailed over the eastern half of the country to-day. Unheralded and unexpected the sun arose at the appointed time this morning and Christmas activities received a great impetus when the great body of shoppers awoke on a typical December morning.

Crowds began peopling the downtown section of the city this morning greatly increasing by this afternoon. There are few pessimists among the merchants and for the past week during an extended gloomy period they all looked forward hoping that Saturday would be a nice day, and it so happened.

Most of the women who cannot go on shopping tours during rain or snow came out to-day, for it was as fine a day as could be hoped for, the temperature remaining around the freezing station, giving a crispness to the atmosphere so necessary to the proper Christmas spirit. The "partly cloudy" forecast of the weather observer was verified, floating clouds obscuring the sun at the noon hour, but there was no fear that rain or snow would result.

According to the local officials of the weather bureau, it is but a brief respite from inclement weather, for another depression is coming in from the west, causing similar weather to that of this week and its influence was felt as far east as Pittsburgh this morning, where it was snowing at 8 o'clock. Increasing cloudiness is forecast for Harrisburg to-morrow afternoon, probably becoming unsettled by night. As a result of the western storm the weather remains unsettled over a greater part of the country and only a brief strip of the country along the eastern coast was clear this morning.

Harrisburg's minimum temperature last night was freezing and little change is expected to-night.

1,000 CHRISTMAS TREES HERE; FIRST OF SEASON

Come From Canada as the Maine Supply Is Cut Off by Disease—Holly and Crow's Foot Much in Evidence in the Markets To-day

This morning Harrisburg dealer received 1,000 Christmas trees shipped from Canada, the first to arrive for the present Yuletide. The trees are of the bushy Canadian variety and will cost a little more than the trees sold here last year.

Many wreaths of laurel, pine, spruce, holly and crow's foot were brought to the markets by the farmers to-day. They claim that it is very difficult to obtain greens this year on account of the snow which covers the mountains. The wreaths sold anywhere from five cents to twenty-five cents apiece. However, the price for pretty wreaths that came from this and nearby counties averaged ten cents apiece, while wreaths made of "Jersey" holly sold for fifteen cents.

Harry L. Holmes, of Holmes Seed Company, who deals in Christmas trees, said that last year trees were shipped here from Maine and could be retained for 75 cents to \$2. This year, he said, no trees are allowed to be shipped from Maine on account of their being diseased. That, he said, will make the cost higher. The Canadian trees, he said, will cost anywhere from one dollar to four dollars.

Much holly is being shipped here from Virginia. Southern wild smilax will be higher this year, as it is reported to be very scarce. Crow's foot, however, will hold its low price of five cents a foot.

Many of the Christmas trees received here from Canada will be shipped to other parts of the United States. An order for 250 trees to be sent to Ohio was received by a local firm this morning.

DENIED RIGHT TO INCREASE?

Believed That Public Service Commission Has Decided Against Railroad Companies in Fare Dispute

Philadelphia, Dec. 12.—The Pennsylvania Public Service Commission is holding an executive session in this city to-day considering the protest of commuters of the Baltimore and Ohio, Reading and Pennsylvania railroads against a proposed increase in fares. A ruling by the commission is expected late this afternoon. The proposed increase in fares is scheduled to go into effect next Tuesday.

Shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon the commission announced that it had arrived at a decision regarding the point at issue. The commission announced that the decision was being given to the various railroads involved and that it would not be made public until the officials of the companies had been made acquainted with its terms. It is generally believed that the railroads have been denied the right to increase fares.

Assessments in Other Cities
Manufacturers who have intended locating here have told the City Commissioners they gave up their plans because of the high tax rate. This caused the Commissioners to study conditions in other cities, with the result that at least some of them are convinced the more valuable properties here are assessed too low.

In New Zealand, it was learned, the real estate owners are given the opportunity to fix the values on their properties and make the proper certification.

Continued on Eighth Page.

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Continued on Seventh Page.