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FIGHTING IN FRANCE RESUMED

Combined Attack by Allies on Line From Hollebeke to Wytschaete, in Belgium

TAKE TRENCHES AND PRISONERS

Retreat of Germans Toward Prepared Positions East of Yser Confirmed—Masses of Troops Concentrating Along Bruges, Thielt and Courtrai

London, Dec. 15, 1.35 P. M.—The official information bureau to-day gave out the following statement:

"After a period of comparatively quiet, the fighting in Northern France has recommenced.

"A combined attack by the allies was made yesterday on the line from Hollebeke to Wytschaete, in Belgium. Several German trenches and a number of prisoners were captured and progress was made."

Wytschaete is five miles south of Ypres, Belgium, while Hollebeke lies about three miles northeast of Wytschaete. Consequently the line referred to in the foregoing dispatch is about three miles long.

Rotterdam, via London, Dec. 15, 3.25 A. M.—The newspaper "La Belgique" says that the retreat of the Germans toward prepared positions east of the Yser is confirmed. Masses of troops have been concentrated along a line embracing Bruges, Thielt and Courtrai with general headquarters at Thielt.

Austria Denies Report About Peace

Vienna, via London, Dec. 15, 6.02 A. M.—It is officially denied that Austria-Hungary has attempted to conclude a separate peace with Serbia.

There have been several reports regarding possible peace negotiations between Austria and Russia, but the official denial is the first intimation here that there have been similar reports regarding Serbia. It is probably that following the recently reported success of the Servians such a rumor became current in Europe.

FRENCH RETAIN GROUND WON ALONG YPRES CANAL

Paris, Dec. 15, 2.40 P. M.—The official statement given out by the French War Office this afternoon says the French have retained the territory they won recently along the Ypres canal to the west of Hollebeke; in the Argonne and elsewhere. There has been artillery fighting from the Somme to the Argonne and in Alsace. German infantry gained a foothold near Steinbach. The text of the communication follows:

"Between the sea and the Lys the English have occupied a little forest to the west of Wytschaete. The ground gained yesterday by our troops along the Ypres canal and to the west of Hollebeke has been retained in spite of a vigorous counter attack on the part of the enemy.

"From the Belgian frontier to the Somme there is nothing to report. From the Somme to the Argonne there has been intermittent cannonading. Excepting in the region of Crouy this artillery fighting has not been spirited. On the Argonne we have made some progress and retained the advances made by us on preceding days.

"In the Vosges the railroad station of St. Leonard, to the south of St. Die, has been violently bombarded by the Germans from a considerable distance.

"In Alsace there has been much activity on the part of the enemy's artillery with the exception of before Steinbach where an attack by German infantrymen, coming from Uffholtz, was successful in gaining a foothold. We have everywhere retained the positions won previously by us."

Rumania Wants U. S. War Supplies

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Rumania has entered the American field for the purchase of war supplies, according to information reaching Chicago merchants to-day. The country, although not a belligerent in the European war, has sent a commission here to place orders for arms, ammunition, cotton and sanitary supplies to cost \$10,000,000.

LATE WAR NEWS SUMMARY

The British military authorities announced to-day that fighting in Northern France had recommenced and that a combined attack by the allies in Belgium, to the south of Ypres, had resulted in the capture of German trenches and substantial progress.

This is the first occasion in several weeks on which the British authorities have considered the day to day activities of the allies of sufficient importance to issue such a statement. London suggests it may mean that the allies have at last begun the general offensive movement which has been expected there for some time.

The French statement to-day covers the same ground as the British announcement and in addition says that some progress has been made in the Argonne. There were indications, however, that the Germans have made progress recently toward the eastern end of the line. The French war office admits that at Steinbach, in Alsace, the German infantry "gained a foothold." Bombardment of St. Leonard and Comberby by the Germans also has been mentioned in the last two official French statements. St. Leonard lies some distance to the south of points previously mentioned in accounts of fighting in the Vosges. Comberby is about ten miles south of St. Mihiel, which has been believed pre-

TURKISH CRUISER MIDIRLI BOMBARDS SEBASTOPOL

Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, Dec. 15.—The official press bureau to-day gave out the following:

"The Turkish cruiser Midirli (formerly the Breslau) has bombarded Sebastopol.

"Vienna newspapers report a mutiny in the army besieging Przemysl. Several battalions are said to have been sent away in fetters.

"The Turkish official bulletin says that the large cruiser Sultan Selim (the Goeben) bombarded Batum on December 10, setting fire to the city. The Russian land batteries returned the fire without success.

"Constantinople learns authoritatively that a Mohammedan uprising has occurred in the Caucasus and that fifty thousand armed Russian Moslems went over to fight against the Russians."

THREE GERMAN GENERALS DIE FROM BATTLE WOUNDS

Berlin, Dec. 14, 4 P. M., Via London, Dec. 15, 12.55 A. M.—Lieutenant General Von Streck, former inspector general of ordnance at Munich, has died from wounds received while fighting in the west. The newspapers announce also the deaths on the battlefield of General Von Brissen, commander of an infantry division, and Major General A. Von Martin.

The newspapers to-day generally print the story of the killing and mutilation of a German sentry who had been watching the wire entanglements and comment appreciatively on what is termed the quick justice meted out by the French to the man who mutilated him. The soldier was found dead December 4. His ears had been cut off.

The day following the finding of the body an officer of the French infantry appeared before the German position under a flag of truce and expressed to the German commanding officer the abhorrence of his regiment at the action of the culprit who, he said, already had been condemned and shot.

ABANDONMENT OF BELGRADE ACKNOWLEDGED BY AUSTRIA

Vienna, via London, Dec. 15, 5.35 P. M.—The abandonment of Belgrade by the Austrians is acknowledged in an official statement given out at army headquarters to-day. The statement follows:

"In the southern theatre of war the retirement of our right wing involved a change in the military situation which made it advisable for us to abandon Belgrade, which was evacuated without fighting. Our troops have fought long and fatiguing battles, but are in the best of spirits."

POSTMASTERS' SALARIES CUT

Harrisburg Escapes But Steelton and Middletown Are Affected

The Congressional House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads yesterday reported to Congress a bill that makes a cut in the salary of almost every postmaster in Pennsylvania. Harrisburg escapes the cut, but Steelton, Middletown, Palmyra, Shamokin, Sunbury, Columbia, Gettysburg, Chambersburg, Carlisle and Mechanicsburg are all in the list of those who will get a reduction in their annual dole.

Some of the cuts are as follows: Steelton, from \$2,600 to \$2,500; Middletown, \$2,100 to \$2,000; Mechanicsburg, \$2,300 to \$2,000; Carlisle, \$2,800 to \$2,500; Chambersburg, \$2,900 to \$2,500; Gettysburg, \$2,600 to \$2,500; Columbia, \$2,600 to \$2,500; Sunbury, \$2,700 to \$2,500; Shamokin, \$2,800 to \$2,500; Palmyra, \$2,500 to \$2,000; Waynesboro, \$2,700 to \$2,500; Shippenburg, \$2,300 to \$2,000.

TO PROSECUTE DELINQUENTS

Firemen's Union Will Endeavor to Collect Unpaid Subscriptions

The finance committee of the Firemen's Union will hold another meeting on Thursday night to complete arrangements for the placing of the outstanding subscriptions made toward the expenses of the State Firemen's convention in the hands of an attorney for collection.

It is rumored that he will be ordered to start prosecution of the delinquents at once.

MERCURY TO FALL TO ZERO TO-NIGHT

4 Degrees Last Night Broke the December Temperature Records for This City

RIVER FREEZES OVER ABOVE DAM

Susquehanna System Will Become Generally Ice Bound To-night—Cold Wave Will Linger for Two Days—Few Homeless Men to Care for

By a fraction of a degree this morning the temperature smashed all minimum records for the month of December when the mercury touched the four degree mark. A further drop to zero is forecast to-night, which, if verified, will set a new minimum record for the month.

The river closed up last night above the dam at the lower end of the city and with zero temperature here to-night it will probably become icebound.

There was considerable suffering last night on account of the suddenness of the fall. The temperature fell twenty-eight degrees over the previous night to a mark of four degrees. This is the first actual cold wave of the season. In the language of the Weather Bureau the fall must be twenty degrees in twenty-four hours to a minimum of ten degrees, last night's fall was six degrees beyond that.

Previous Low Mark in 1894

The previous low mark for December was a fraction over four degrees on December 29, 1894. Records are on file in the local office of the Weather Bureau for twenty-six years. The closing of the river in a temperature of four

MAY BE SKATING TO-MORROW

Wildwood Lake Will Probably Be Ready for Pleasure Seekers

There will be skating on Wildwood lake to-morrow, according to the City Park department, if the temperature continues as at present. Since the indications of the Weather Bureau are that the mercury will tonight drop to zero, those skates had better be sharpened and polished and made ready for use.

The ice on the lake is to-day three and a quarter inches thick, and not considered quite safe. If it is in condition to-morrow, as is most likely, the boat house will be open for the use of skaters from 9 o'clock in the evening until 11.30 o'clock in the morning.

NO BUYER FOR BOND ISSUE

Tightness of Money Market Shown by Failure to Get Bids on \$17,000 Gilt-edged Swatara School 4 1/2s

That money is tight in the vicinity of Harrisburg and gilt-edged bonds go begging for purchasers was evidenced last night when the School Board of Swatara township met to dispose of a loan of \$17,000 and found no takers.

The fact that bids would be received for a duly authorized school bond issue of \$17,000 had been advertised extensively, and last night's meeting was the time set for opening the bids at the school board office in Oberlin. President P. Eyre Parham presided and announced that the bonds to be issued were 4 1/2 per cent, redeemable in thirty years, the board reserving the right to redeem them at the end of ten years. This was followed by the announcement from Secretary John M. Erb that no bids had been received.

After some discussion it was agreed that when the money market gets better the board will again offer the bonds for sale. The district, however, will not suffer for lack of funds as the board already had made a temporary loan as a precautionary measure.

MRS. THRONEMAY NOT RECOVER

Woman Shot by Husband Is Getting Worse at Hospital

The condition of Mrs. Beulah Thronemay, who was shot three times by her husband Sunday afternoon at 105 Linden street, after a quarrel, becomes steadily worse at the Harrisburg hospital. Her temperature increased during the night and it is feared she cannot recover.

The body of her husband, George Edward Thronemay, who committed suicide, after shooting his wife, will be taken to Womelsdorf to-morrow morning for burial.

SAYS BONDS NEVER CAME

Franklin County Man Charges C. W. Shaffer With Attempt at Fraud

C. W. Shaffer, jointly indicted for false profiting with J. E. Rice, who is now serving a term in the Dauphin county prison, was arrested yesterday by City Detective White.

He is charged with selling bonds to a Franklin county man. The bonds were never delivered by Rice, according to the complainant. He entered \$1,000 bail for a hearing.

WOMEN TO CONTINUE WORK OF STOUGH WHEN HE LEAVES

Personal Workers This Afternoon Form a League to Carry on Evangelistic Endeavors After the Close of the Tabernacle Meetings

The first actual step was this afternoon taken to continue the work of the Stough evangelistic campaign, after the tabernacle meetings come to an end next Monday. A gathering at the tabernacle at 2 o'clock, following a talk by the Rev. Mr. Cartwright, Dr. Stough's associate, the hundred or more women who have been doing personal work in the tabernacle audiences were organized into the "League of Personal Service."

The Rev. Mr. Cartwright told the women that the work of saving souls for Christ must go on after the Stough party leaves Harrisburg, and that for this purpose the men and the women would form separate leagues. The object of the leagues is "both to conserve the results and extend the influence of the evangelistic campaign, especially by winning persons one by one to Jesus Christ."

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

The organization of the league calls for the election of a president, a secretary, a treasurer and the chairmen of various committees. The committees consist of membership, program, steering and extension work.

There will be a personal Service League in all the co-operating churches, the chairmen of which will be vice presidents of the central league. Meetings will be held at the call of the president, but must be solely of an evangelistic nature.

Names of persons who have been active in the Stough campaign will go into school houses and country churches on Sundays and hold evangelistic services. It is said that such teams are still at work in cities where Stough campaigns were held more than two years ago.

FIREMEN TO PARADE TO-NIGHT

Firemen of the city will to-night march through the streets to the tabernacle, where seats will be reserved for them. To-morrow night is railroad night and the Pennsy men are endeavoring to get out a crowd of 4,000. Men from every department of the railroad service will line up at the P. R. Y. M. C. A. and march to the tabernacle headed by the West End band. A delegation from Enola will start to march from Fourth and Walnut streets. Both lines will move not later than 7.25 o'clock.

CHRISTMAS GOODS STOLEN

Thieves Leave Behind Part of Booty Which Is Too Bulky to Go Through Window

(Special to the Star-Independent.)

Middletown, Dec. 15.—Christmas goods valued at two hundred dollars were taken from T. E. Mays' drug store on Union street, last night, by at least two men, who forced their entrance into the building through a rear window. They were not seen and it is believed that there is as yet no clue as to their identity.

After the thieves had rifled several show cases, they made their way from the store through a small opening beneath the front show window.

This opening is barely large enough to permit the passage of a man's body, and they must have had difficulty in getting their spoils through. At any rate, they left behind a box of goods valued at more than fifty dollars which they had manifestly gathered together to take with them. They also left behind a coat and a whiskey bottle, neither of which bore signs of identification.

KUNKEL LEFT SON \$200,000

Rest of His Estate Goes to the Widow During Her Life and Then Reverts to the Son

The will of the late John C. Kunkel was recorded this morning. Under its terms \$200,000 is left to the Harrisburg Trust Company in trust for Mrs. Kunkel and his son, John C. Kunkel, Jr., a student at Andover Academy.

The rest of the estate is left to his widow during her life. At her death it will go to the son, John.

Mrs. Kunkel is named as sole executrix.

MR. CHAPMAN'S MOTHER DIES

Mrs. Chapman-Gilnes Succumbs After Being in a Coma for Two Weeks

(Special to the Star-Independent.)

Franklin, N. H., Dec. 15.—Mrs. Ella F. Chapman-Gilnes to whom was left a million by her first husband, Frank H. Chapman, died yesterday in her home on Prospect street after having been in a coma for two weeks. She leaves a son Eben Chapman, of Harrisburg, Pa. Another son, Frank W. Chapman, lives in Mississippi.

Mrs. Gilnes was prominent socially in New Hampshire and has been actively interested in the Franklin Women's Club. She was well known throughout New England and in the West. A fortnight ago she suffered a heart attack. She was 62 years old.

Eben Chapman is employed in the mechanical engineering department of the Pennsylvania Steel Company and resides at the Engineer's Club, 31 South Front street. On Saturday he left for his home in Franklin on account of the serious illness of his mother.

Breaks Leg in Fall on Ice

Steve Shraga, an Austrian, residing at 1219 South Ninth street, slipped on the ice on the Dock street bridge while running home for his dinner to-day and fractured both bones of his left leg below the knee. He was treated at the Harrisburg hospital.

STROUP FINDS REST IN PEACEFUL NEW YORK CITY

District Attorney Back to His Work After Quiet Week-End Sojourn Among the Green Fields of Manhattan Island



Having devoted much work to a murder case in Harrisburg, Pa., Mr. Michael E. Stroup, District Attorney of Dauphin County, Pa., said yesterday in the Waldorf Astoria that New York city is the wisest place to come for a rest cure that he knows of. He said he had "hustled and hustled."

Mr. Stroup was finishing his breakfast of coffee and eggs—real country eggs fresh laid in the barnyard right back of the hotel—the "Herald" reporter arrived, his hair nicely combed and in his best Sunday suit. Mr. Stroup soon approached and handed the reporter a King Oscar. They cocked their feet up before the stove in the front office, called for a spittoon and then the Prosecutor, in his breezy Western way, remarked:

"Fire away with your interview."

Solving New York Problems

"What do you think of our town?" falteringly asked the reporter, not yet feeling fully at his ease.

"It's a nice quiet place for a man who wants a rest after ridding a big town of scariest women and the trading stamp evil," replied the District Attorney in a reassuring voice that made the reporter feel comfortable right away. "I'm sorry it's snowing so hard this morning, though. I had planned to walk down Broadway to Trinity church for morning service. Thought a little fresh country air and the sight of the green grass on Wall street would do me good, but it looks now as though we'll just have to sit around the fire and wait for the dinner bell."

"What do you think of the crime wave that has struck our city? We have had several bomb-throwings and shooting affairs right here in New York, lately, and our District Attorney doesn't seem to know what to do about it."

FINDS QUIET AND REST IN NEW YORK

Michael E. Stroup Enjoys the Change From Dauphin County, Pa.

Mr. Stroup told Mr. Hillegas the Waldorf was going to have a chicken and waffle supper that night. Some of Mr. Stroup's old friends from Pennsylvania, who are now living in our town, invited him to attend. After that, Mr. Stroup said he would be resting in earnest and would be glad to have Mr. Hillegas come around.

Next morning, Sunday, Mr. Hillegas

BAND CONCERT TO-NIGHT FOR RED CROSS BENEFIT

Christmas Seals Will Be Sold in Entertainment—Merchants Are Using Thousands of Stickers

Almost seventy-five store keepers and other business men of Harrisburg have enlisted in the "Merchant Day" movement of the Red Cross Christmas seal campaign which opened to-day, and between 15,000 and 20,000 of the Yuletide stamps have already been disposed of through these channels.

The plan is simple. No one who figures in the campaign is expected to sell the seals; he merely buys a lot and pastes one upon each package that goes out of his store or office on the particular day set apart for those in the line of business in which he is engaged.

The merchant's day end of the campaign is being handled by Edward Manner, who is assisted by some thirty or forty Boy Scouts of the city. The youngsters acted as canvassers and obtained the orders from the store-keepers and they later served as messengers in carrying around the supplies of seals.

To-day was "clothing" and haberdashers' day" and seals were pasted up by the following: Clothiers, Dout-

PUT THEIR PRICES ON HARDCRABBLE

60 Per Cent. of Owners Seek Total of \$152,500 for Their Properties and Damages

CITY TO PASS ON THE CLAIMS

They Are Submitted to the Commissioners by City Solicitor Seitz Who Says the Improvements Made Since 1869 Cannot Legally Be Considered

Estimates on values of homes and damages likely to result through the razing of Hardscrabble properties to permit the reopening of Front street, between Herr and Calder, which were submitted by sixty per cent. of the Hardscrabble property owners to City Solicitor D. S. Seitz, total something about \$152,500.

The scores of more claims were submitted to the City Commissioners at their meeting this afternoon, but no action was taken upon them, the commissioners desiring to defer action for one week. They did, however, pass a resolution providing for the filing of the necessary bonds as guarantees to the Hardscrabble property owners against damages through the taking by the city of their homes. These bonds will be filed with the court and the property owners will have the opportunity and privilege of objecting to the amounts, if they so desire.

Along with the claims came letters from owners of property along the westside of Front street between South and a point 85 feet north of Liberty street. Those claims alone will run close to if not exceed \$75,000.

One Property Is "Not For Sale"

The City Solicitor, in a communication to the Commissioners, advised them that with them is vested the power to say what estimates are reasonable and equitable and they alone shall say which shall be accepted. The legal adviser then goes on to tell how the property values are to be determined—that the present values of the homes are to be considered and that improvements made since 1869, when the street was originally opened, shall not be given consideration; and he also points out what legal procedure must be pursued to acquire the homes and accomplish the plan to reopen the street.

WATER BUDGET GOES IN

With the Health Department Appropriation Bill, It Is Passed on First Reading This Afternoon

The city ordinances carrying the 1915 budgets for the Water and Health and Sanitation departments were introduced by Commissioner Henry F. Browman at the regular meeting to-day of the City Commissioners and passed on first reading. The water ordinance carries appropriations totaling \$122,239.83. For the present nine-month fiscal "year" the departmental appropriations totaled \$138,798 and for 1915 they were \$135,191.58.

This year's budget, however, includes a \$22,259 item, the money for which was appropriated after the appropriation bill had been framed. It covered the cost of new water meters and new water pipe construction.

The total health department budget is \$49,838. This includes the plumbing inspector's budget, \$1,820; the Health budget, \$10,430; food inspection, \$2,640, and \$23,948 provided for the collection of garbage and ashes.

The request for a \$1,200 appropriation for the salary of an assistant to the plumbing inspector, which was put in the ordinance at the request of the Plumbers' Association, has been ripped from the bill.

CHARTERED TO SELL AIRSHIPS

Front-Market Motor Supply Company Obtains Incorporation Papers To-day

Articles of incorporation for the Front-Market Motor Supply Company, of Harrisburg, were to-day approved by Governor Tener and the charter was issued from the State Department.

The new company has a capital of \$10,000 and the incorporators are Leroy B. Wildermuth and James B. Mersereau, Harrisburg; Isaac W. Matter, West Fairview, and H. J. Wildermuth, Columbus, Ohio.

The firm will deal in supplies for motor vehicles of all kinds, including motorcycles, motor boats and aeroplanes—and in motor boats and flying machines. The location of the new corporation's quarters is at Front and Market streets.

WALL STREET CLOSING

New York, Dec. 15.—The first day of new trading in the full stock list was marked by considerable irregularity. Initial prices for all prominent issues, including Internationals, were higher, but heavy offerings, partly for foreign account, caused a speedy reversal, with losses of 2 to 3 1/2 points.

The closing was heavy. Lowest prices were made in the final hour, with a continuance of the selling in Steel and Baltimore and Ohio.

Two More Paydays For Cops

The policemen have two paydays before Christmas. One was to-day and the second will be December 23.

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