

WAR VIEWED FROM AFAR BY NEW ALLY

Secretary Baker, as Year Closes, Reviews Conditions Along Battle Fronts.

SITUATIONS ARE HOPEFUL

British Dominate Plain of Flanders. French Hold Key to Laon Area. Italians Holding Firm and Preparing for Great Attack.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—What the beginning of the new year finds at the battle fronts is outlined by Secretary Baker in his weekly review of military operations issued tonight. In the west, he says, the British dominate the Flanders plain with a great wedge into the principal German line of defense at Cambrai, while the French, with their own lines unbroken, hold the key to the Laon area through the capture of Chemin des Dames.

Italy, supported by the allies, is holding firm, while the enemy, after battering in vain for six weeks against the defenders, is busy preparing for a renewed offensive.

Of Russia the review merely says the Germans are endeavoring to persuade that country that they are eager to assist in restoring normal conditions and that the German Embassy building at Petrograd is being made ready for occupancy.

While the operation of American troops at the front has been confined to narrow limits, the Secretary says their presence has heartened the allies and increased faith in final victory.

The review follows in part: "The military situation at the beginning of the new year is as follows: "In the west the British in the Ypres salient occupy the high ground of the Passchendaele ridge and dominate the Flanders plain."

"Their wedge in front of Cambrai has ripped a great gap in the principal line of defense."

"The battle for Cambrai proved that the German defensive positions could be broken and taken. Though full advantage was not taken of the early successes gained by the British, the disaster to German arms in this battle was the most serious since the Marne."

French Hold Key to Laon. "The French, by the capture of the Chemin des Dames have secured the key to the Laon area. Their own line of defense remains unshaken."

"Detachments of our own forces have engaged the enemy. While their operations have been confined to narrow limits, their aid has been valuable and the presence of American troops in the firing line has heartened the allies to continue the struggle with increased faith in final victory."

"During the period under review, the combat situation remained unchanged. Reports of the concentration of host troops in the West continue to be received."

"As far as military operations in the West are concerned no events of more than minor importance are reported. The Germans have been busy re-grouping their forces."

"In the Italian theater the enemy is continuing his persistent offensive in the mountain area."

Italians Have Held Firm. "The Italians have held firm and reaped the advantage of the success gained last week when they captured the valuable strategic terrain in the vicinity of the Monte Asolone."

"The Austro-Germans in the region of Monte Asolone have been busy readjusting their tactical positions and making further preparations for a renewed offensive."

"We are now entering upon the third month of the battle for the mastery of Venetia. Since November 9 the enemy has been held up along the Piave. During the past six weeks no really decisive success has been gained by the invaders. They have battered in vain against the staunch resistance of the Italians."

"Reviewing the situation, it is revealed that the first German successes in Italy far exceeded their most sanguinary hopes. When they became deeply involved in the Italian campaign they had no real broad plan of invasion. The local advantages won by Austro-German strategy were expanded from day to day, as barriers which they themselves believed would hold firm mysteriously gave way. It is evident from the repeated transfer of troops, first from the Trentino front to the Piave and later back again to the Trentino, that the enemy was pursuing an opportunistic plan of campaign rather than following a well-rounded-out and definite strategic operation."

Successes in Palestine Continued. "An examination of the tactical disposition of the enemy shows that when he met with a rebuff he did not immediately shift the center of attack to another."

"In Palestine the British have continued their successes and are pushing northward from Jaffa. Now that details of the campaign in this area are reaching us we are able to survey the situation there more fully."

"The operations which culminated in the capture of Jerusalem must be ranked among the most strikingly successful of any of the present war. All objectives were gained rapidly and without serious loss."

"In Mesopotamia the British forces are consolidating their positions and securing their hold on the country. The Russian contingent operating under the orders of General Marshall has refused to accept the armistice decreed by the Petrograd authorities and is fighting vigorously with the British."

of any point in the country. It was 20 degrees below zero there. Official temperatures showed the lowest for the line to extend northward of Philadelphia and eastward of Buffalo.

Philadelphia was at zero; New York and Boston, 8 below; Albany and Portland, 15 below. Another very cold area was around Des Moines, Ia., where it was zero. At Chicago, Detroit, Louisville and Omaha it was 19 above zero; Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Indianapolis, 8 above; St. Louis, 12 below, and Kansas City, 14 above.

Through the South the range was 4 above at Raleigh to 24 at Miami, Fla., and New Orleans, Jacksonville and Atlanta reported 18 and Mobile 23.

DAWSON COLD BRINGS DEATH

Epidemic of Pneumonia Sweeps Yukon City for Month.

DAWSON, Y. T., Dec. 31.—Dawson's thermometer has registered between 20 and 40 degrees below zero for the past month, and an epidemic of pneumonia and colds is sweeping the town.

All the hospitals are crowded. Eighteen deaths have taken place during the cold spell, and no funerals are possible until the weather moderates.

The latest deaths include those of George Henley, former city librarian; Peter Brochu, a pioneer of the Cariboo section, and John Nicholas, a mining promoter.

One day during the cold spell the mercury dropped to 86 degrees below zero at the mouth of the Felly River, about 150 miles up the Yukon River from here. At White Horse, the head of navigation on the Yukon, it was 72 degrees below zero.

1400 TEUTONS CAPTURED

FRENCH FORCES SCORE TRIUMPH ON ITALIAN BATTLEFRONT.

Austro-German Lines Pierced in Monte Tomba Region—Machine Guns and Cannon Taken.

ROME, Dec. 31.—In the Monte Tomba region on the northern front the French have captured many positions between Osteria di Monferena and Marankine, the War Office announces.

They also captured about 1400 men and 60 machine guns and seven cannons.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—French forces on the northern Italian front yesterday took the offensive. In the afternoon the French infantry penetrated portions of the Austro-German positions on Monte Tomba, the German General Staff announced today.

VIENNA, via London, Dec. 31.—Counter-measures against the French are in course of preparation in the Monte Tomba area, the War Office announces.

NIAGARA POWER IS FREED

Plants Making Non-Essentials to Close and Power to Be Diverted.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Between 50,000 and 100,000 electrical horsepower will be released in Niagara Falls under an order received today by the Hydraulic Power Company and the Niagara Falls Power Company from the Federal Government.

The order becomes effective Wednesday. Electro-chemical companies working on important war orders will receive power diverted from plants engaged in the manufacture of non-essentials.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian. Main 7978 & 4295.

GUATEMALA QUAKE TERROR CONTINUES

Disturbances That Started Christmas Night Repeated at Intervals.

DAMAGE TOTALS MILLIONS

Latest Reports Indicate Few Losses of Life, but Many Are Injured.

Work of Relief Started—Red Cross Will Send Supplies.

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala, Dec. 31.—Earth shocks that began here at 11 o'clock on Christmas night and are still continuing, caused millions of dollars' damage to this city, the death of a few persons and the injury of about 100 others.

Every house in the city was rendered uninhabitable and the entire population is living in the parks and open spaces. The first shocks were light, giving warning of the heavy ones that might follow. In the interim every one had opportunity to seek safety in the open air.

The devastation wrought was widespread. The Presidential palace, the postoffice, the cathedral, all the churches, the hospitals, the schools and Masonic Temple were seriously damaged. The electric lighting system was put out of commission and telegraphic and railway communication interrupted.

Provisions Are Distributed. The government is relieving the situation by the distribution of provisions. Everyone is prohibited from remaining inside any of the buildings in the city. Excellent order has been preserved.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—While the material damage was very heavy, there was but little loss of life in the earthquake at Guatemala City a few days ago, according to the first advice received from Guatemala government officials by Ramon Bengoechea, the Guatemalan Consul here, late today.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—American officials today prepared to send aid to the sufferers in Guatemala.

Foreign Colony Is Safe. While the American diplomats are safe, archives of the legation and consulate are believed to have been lost as the buildings are reported to have been shaken to the ground. Unofficial advice indicates that the foreign colony escaped without loss of life.

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Four earthquakes apparently have shaken Guatemala City. Records on the Georgetown University seismological observatory instruments here show the first shocks were felt on Christmas night shortly after midnight. A second series of shocks came about 9 A. M. on December 26. Further shocks were recorded on Friday, December 28, at 4:20 P. M., but the heaviest shocks came at 5:57 P. M., Saturday, December 29. It appears that this last disturbance was the one which caused the most damage.

A shipment of Red Cross relief supplies, consisting of 600 barrels of flour, quantities of clothing, disinfectants and general foodstuffs, will leave New Orleans Thursday for Puerto Barrios.

It will be followed by a shipment of tents by the end of this week.

BRITISH CASUALTIES FALL

December War Losses Far Lighter Than Those of November.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—British casualties reported in December reached a total of 79,537, divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 1045; men, 14,805.

Wounded or missing—Officers, 3342; men, 60,332.

Casualties reported from December 26 to 31 were 9951, divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 65; men, 2069.

Wounded or missing—Officers, 238; men, 7539.

British casualties this month show a marked decrease from November, reflecting the closing down of operations with the coming of winter. The total for last month was 130,099, the highest in five months, owing to the severe fighting on the Cambrai front.

The figures for the last six days of December are much lower than for the preceding six days. The report for the period December 19 to 24 gave the total of 13,319.

Edison's wish you a happy 1918.—Adv.

1917

1918



Everybody at Our Place
Wishes Everybody at Your Place
A Happy & Prosperous New Year

Lipman Wolfe & Co.
Merchandise of Merit Only

To our customers whose generous patronage has made possible this beautiful jewelry store, and to everybody, everywhere, we wish

A Happy New Year

Cronson's
JEWELERS
Washington Street at Broadway

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Start the New Year Right--

by dining at the Portland Hotel. Our chef has planned a tempting New Year's menu—Portland Hotel style. Of course there will be turkey—the finest we can obtain. Every course a delight.

New Year's Dinner in Both
Dining-Rooms, 5:30 to 8:30
\$1.50 Per Cover
Music and Dancing

The Portland

"A generation of Hotel Leadership"

RICHARD W. CHILDS,
Manager.

ELBERT S. ROBE,
Asst. Manager.

We wish our many friends
a Happy New Year

And take this opportunity of thanking our many friends for their loyal support in the past and are pleased to announce that our New Store, at the old location, will give us more than double our former space. Alterations will take a few days, but we are prepared to take care of our trade as usual.

Seiberling-Lucas Music Co.
125 Fourth Street

Portland Convalescent Hospital



THE PORTLAND CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, a high-class sanatorium, located at 862 Marshall street, is among the foremost institutions of this kind in the Pacific Northwest. The Hospital is conducted under the personal supervision of Julia M. Parker for the past six years, having been located at Twentieth and Gilsan streets for three years previous to the present location.

This hospital specializes in Stomach, Kidney and Heart troubles, having special facilities for treating of Nutritional and Metabolic cases, and is fully equipped for Hydropathic and Electric Heat and Massage. No cases for operations of any description are handled, which assures patients of a homelike environment.

The hospital is at the service of all physicians, and necessary arrangements can be made by mail or phone—Marshall 2893. Home A 7321.



Giebisch & Joplin Condensed Milk Factory
Sole Manufacturers of YELBAN MILK (Cardinal Products),
PORTLAND, OREGON
Condensers at McMinville and Bandon, Oregon

USED PACKARD

Six-cylinder, seven-passenger Packard, absolutely as good as new. This is not a worn-out, antiquated model, but a strictly modern car with every convenience and refinement. The finish has not a scratch or dent, the upholstery looks as if it had never been used. Mechanically this car is in perfect shape. Am leaving for the East and somebody is going to get this car this week at a great big bargain. Call the owner at East 3183.

3 Trains Only

BETWEEN

Portland and Puget Sound Cities

This reduction made necessary by flood conditions.

Commencing today, and continuing until further notice, passenger trains for Tacoma, Seattle and all intermediate stations will leave Portland, UNION STATION ONLY, as follows:

8:30 A.M., 12:30 P.M., 4:15 P.M.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES IN SEATTLE WILL BE AT THE KING-STREET STATION

These trains will consist of coaches, dining car and baggage car. NO OBSERVATION CARS, PARLOR CARS OR SLEEPING CARS WILL BE OPERATED.

8:30 A. M. train will make connections for Grays Harbor and Willapa Harbor cities, also for Olympia and American Lake (Camp Lewis).

4:15 P. M. train will make connection for Grays Harbor and Willapa Harbor and run via American Lake.

Leaving time from Seattle for Portland and intermediate points same as from Portland, 8:30 A. M., 12:30 P. M. and 4:15 P. M.

Tickets of any issue, whether Northern Pacific, Great Northern or Union Pacific (O-W. R. R. & N.) will be honored on any of these trains.

For more detailed information inquire at the City Ticket Office of the Northern Pacific, 3d and Morrison Streets; Union Pacific, 3d and Washington Streets, or Great Northern, 348 Washington Street.

A. D. Charlton
Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent
Northern Pacific Railway
Portland, Oregon

Wm. McMurray
General Passenger Agent
Union Pacific System
Portland, Oregon

M. J. Cosfello
Asst. Traffic Manager
Great Northern Railway
Seattle, Wash.

PARIS TO HAVE ART SHOW

Both Old and New Salons to Be Held for First Time Since War.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—Permission has been given by the Municipal Council for the holding of art exhibitions in the Petit Palais in the Champs Elysees. The Grand Palais, where the exhibitions usually are held, is occupied at present as a hospital.

Both the old and new salons are likely to be held this season for the first time since the beginning of the war.

COLDEST DAY KILLS 16

(Continued From First Page)

tonight, was forecast today by the Weather Bureau for the country from the Ohio Valley eastward. The cold wave is now passing to sea.

The intense cold has not been equaled in the territory south of New York along the coast and inland since December 24, 1893.

Canton, N. Y., reported the lowest temperature, at 3 o'clock this morning