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BRITISH PRESS GROWS CALMER NOTE DIGESTED

Inclined to Believe Wilson Has Secret Knowledge of Germany's Terms and Based Message on Them.

GERMAN PAPERS EAGER TO LEARN OUTCOME OF MOVE

Some Dispatches Indicate Suspicion of America's Motives, Declaring That If Sincere President Should Merely Make Allies Assent to Entente's Offers.

BERLIN, Dec. 23.—President Wilson's note has aroused the keenest interest. Papers subordinated the war news and based the note with Lloyd George's speech. Editorially they said peace was distant on account of Lloyd George's stand.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Newspapers have calmed down after attacking President Wilson's note. They are inclined to believe Wilson has a knowledge of Germany's terms and based the note on them. Lansing's two statements are considered bewildering. Editorials called them a side issue. All newspapers expressed the hope that Wilson's hint of peace may be based on secret German information.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 23.—Dispatches said the Cologne Volkszeitung views President Wilson's note with suspicion. They said: "From our knowledge of President Wilson we can easily picture the kind of peace he wants. If sincere, Wilson should merely make the allies assent to the German proposals and state the terms at a conference."

WOMEN FIGHT FOR FOOD IN DRESDEN

SERIOUS RIOTS TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, MONDAY AND TUESDAY; POLICE CALLED.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Riotous dispatches reported serious Dresden food riots on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Police and military forces fought a hundred women. Three policemen were seriously wounded on Tuesday. The mobs attacked shops and paraded past the palace, demanding food. The sharpest fighting took place Tuesday.

HAMLEY & CO. PLAY SANTA TO INDIANS

Hamley & Co. played Santa Claus to the Indians of the Umatilla reservation this afternoon following their annual custom. A big tree in the center of their saleroom was laden with gifts such as apples to the eyes of the red people and bunched about it was a large pile of sacked candies, nuts, apples and other Christmas delicacies. Dollar bills were sprinkled about over the tree and were quite as attractive as the gay shawls, blankets and kerchiefs. The room was packed with Indian men, women and children and each received candy, nuts and fruit. The more costly gifts were secured by those lucky enough to draw the designated numbers.

Wants Special Food Commission. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Representative London offered a resolution for a special food commission consisting of the secretaries of agriculture, commerce and labor to ascertain whether the United States food supply is sufficient. If insufficient he would declare an export embargo. The senate postoffice committee favorably reported the bill barring liquor advertisements from dry states mails.

CARRANZA FORCES GATHER FOR DEFENSE OF JUAREZ



MEXICAN CAVALRY. EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 23.—Despite the fact that officials of Carranza profess to believe that "Pancho" Villa, the Mexican bandit, will not dare at-

SANTA TO APPEAR IN PERSON AT CHRISTMAS TREE TONIGHT

Everything is in readiness for Pendleton's annual municipal Christmas celebration, which will be held tonight. The festivities will commence at 8:30 p. m. when a well trained chorus of forty children will sing gay Christmas carols as they are borne through the streets on a beautiful float. The exercises at the Christmas tree at the corner of Main and Alta streets will start at 7:15 with a drill by the high school cadet corps and folk dancing by the high school girls. The crowning event of the night will be the arrival of Santa Claus from the north. Old Santa will be mounted in

RAISING OF GENERAL COUNTY SCHOOL TAX WILL MEET STRONG OPPOSITION IS BELIEF OF SUPERINTENDENT YOUNG

That the plan proposed by Principal John Washburn of Milton to lower the district school tax of the more populous districts by raising the general county school tax from one and a half to four mills will encounter several formidable obstacles when the subject is investigated is the belief of County Superintendent J. E. Young. He declared this morning that the law forbidding the increase of any tax more than six per cent will prevent either the legislature or the county court from making the proposed increase unless the people at a special election first authorize the increase. He points out that the convention of directors held in this city some months ago favored doubling the county per capita school tax but that the county court ran up against this same obstacle. Moreover, Supl. Young states that the proposed plan, while it would reduce the district taxes in most all of the incorporated towns, would work

PENDLETON TEAMS SCORE DOUBLE VICTORY IN GAMES WITH ATHENA

Both the boys and girls basketball teams were victorious last night in a double header with Athena in that city. The girls won easily, their score being 29 to 7, but the boys had a much harder time, only winning 28 to 27. The girls' game, which was played first, proved to be a walkover for Pendleton. The whole Pendleton team showed a great amount of fight, never giving Athena a chance to gain the advantage. The entire second team was sent into the game in the second half and continued to hold the lead acquired in the first half. Alta Mentzer and Helen Nelson proved the stars of the local team, much of the credit of the large score being due to them. However, the entire Pendleton team played up to top-notch form and showed itself to be a scrappy organization. The boys' game proved to be a

CHIHUAHUA ATTACK IS AGAIN IMMINENT

Villa Seeks to Eliminate Murguia After Having Gained Torreon in Short Fight Yesterday. EL PASO, Dec. 23.—Americans connected with foreign enterprises escaped to Aguas Calientes before Villa captured Chihuahua. It is learned Villa took the city easily. Government forces prepared to evacuate when the bandits appeared. Following one clash the Villistas waited until the evacuation was completed and then entered unopposed. General Salazar, Villa's chief lieutenant, is occupying a strategic position south of Chihuahua. There is continuous fighting between Salazar and Murguia. Another attack on Chihuahua is imminent. Military experts are watching Villa's latest moves with keenest interest. Villa is strongest since Pershing entered Mexico. He is smashing at Murguia's force of twelve thousand men, the strongest Carranzista unit in northern Mexico. If Murguia is eliminated Villa will hold undisputed control of the north. The occupation of Torreon paralyzes all railroads and severs communication with Mexico City. Torreon is the center of a rich, populous district. United States department agents learned that Villa personally commanded the Torreon troops. Other reports said Villa remained at Jimenez directing the operations and commanding the reserves. Villa controls two hundred miles of Mexican national railway lines between Ortiz and Chihuahua. He occupies Santa Rosalia, Mampimi, Parral and Jiminez.

INFERNAL MACHINE SENT TO ALBANY MAN

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 23.—James R. Misner received an infernal machine through the mail yesterday, wrapped in Seattle and Tacoma papers. Misner opened the outer lid and saw the second lid was glued beneath and became afraid. He tied the box to a tree, attached fifty feet of wire and opened it by pulling a cord. The explosion blew a hole in the street.

IDAHO LEGISLATURE WILL BE DEMOCRATIC

BOISE, Dec. 23.—For the first time in 18 years the Idaho state legislature will be democratic in both its branches when it convenes here January 8. Governor Alexander and democratic party leaders plan a brief session, terminating before the end of the 60 day period allowed by the constitution. Enactment of initiative and referendum laws will be attempted at the outset. A complete revision of the election laws is also planned. Liberal appropriations will be asked for good road building.

XMAS RUSH IS THE GREATEST EVER HANDLED

Postoffices Over Country are Flooded With Traffic That Breaks Previous Record by 25 Per Cent.

ROADS USE FAST FREIGHTS

Postmaster General Issues Orders to All Mail Superintendents to Put on Extra Mail Handlers and Send Bills to Railways.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Millions of pounds of mail are inundating the post offices. It is by twenty per cent the biggest Christmas rush ever handled. Every post office is affected. Headquarters are receiving hundreds of telegrams daily detailing record traffic and severe obstacles impeding deliveries. Postmaster General Burleson ordered all railroads to use fast freights in an effort to catch up. He authorized all mail superintendents to employ extra mail handlers and send the bills to the railroads. The contracts force the railroads to handle the mail promptly and employ extra labor if necessary. Post office officials refused to estimate the mail volume. Chicago handled over twenty one hundred tons in three days. One Chicago mail order house used sixteen thousand mail sacks and paid twenty thousand dollars postage in one day. Trains west of Buffalo were delayed from twelve to twenty four hours. Many were forty eight hours late at St. Louis.

WESTERN ROADS FACE ENFORCED LAY OFF

DALLAS, Dec. 23.—All railroads west of Chicago face the possibility of stopping or curtailing operations in event the coal miners take their annual layoff during the holiday season, according to a high Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad official.

SWITCHMEN GRANTED PORTION OF DEMANDS

Federal Arbitration Board Gives Five Cents an Hour Increase to Conductors and Helpers From Today Until December 23, 1917. NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The federal arbitration board has filed an award in the federal court partially granting the switchmen's union of North America's demands. The switchmen asked thirteen eastern and middle western railroads to pay time and half overtime. The board granted a five cents an hour increase to conductors and helpers from today until December 23, 1917, with an eight hour day and prorata overtime.

ENTENTE TO ANSWER GERMANY IN 10 DAYS

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Sources close to the foreign office divulged that the entente answer to Germany's peace proposals will probably not be delivered before ten days. President Wilson's peace note undoubtedly is particularly responsible for the delay. They stated the delay was chiefly due to the fact that all allies must exchange views before framing the answer. The Globe suggested that maybe Wilson wrote the note because Germany threatened ruthless frightfulness unless the United States made such an event would form a complete explanation of Wilson's note and "Lansing's indiscreet comment." PARIS, Dec. 23.—The French editorial comment almost unanimously urged the allies to answer President Wilson's note with the same words Lincoln used in rejecting European interference in the middle of the civil war. The Petit Parisienne declared the entente reply to Germany's proposals was nearly completed. It is a lengthy document listing the allies' grievances and citing the "heavy" responsibilities of German powers.

FINAL PLANS ARE MADE FOR ERECTION OF NEW \$30,000 THEATRE HERE

Proposed Building to be Located Just Back of Present Temple Theatre, With Main Street Entrance.

\$10,000 BONDS TO SELL

Consummation of Plans Depends Upon Sale of Guaranteed 6 Per Cent Stock — Promises are Virtually Made For All of It.

TWO KILLED, 2 HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Coming as a Christmas contribution to Pendleton is the announcement today of a new \$30,000 theater which is to be built soon for the accommodation of road shows and vaudeville. The proposed theater is to be built just back of the present Temple theater and will have an entrance from Main street through the Temple building. The consummation of the plans announced is contingent upon the sale of \$10,000 worth of guaranteed six per cent bonds. While promises have virtually been made for the placing of all of the stock by local people who are interested in seeing a modern theater built here, the work will not be commenced until the bonds are all sold. Immediately after Christmas the actual placing of these bonds will be undertaken. The undertaking is backed by Dr. I. U. Temple who has secured from George Darveau a contract to buy the lot back of the Temple building. The plans call for a theater 55 feet by 110 in dimensions with a seating capacity of approximately 1000. The stage will be 48 by 65— which will make it large enough to accommodate all of the large road shows. The fly gallery will be 52 feet high. The theater will consist of a lower floor and a balcony. The lower floor will be on the street level with an incline provided by excavation. A full basement will be built and the dressing rooms and steam heating plant will be under the stage. The building will be of concrete except the west wall which will be the present brick back wall of the Temple building. It is the intention to build an operating room for moving picture machines and this, too, will be of concrete, making the fire risk very small. A wide arcade, illuminated and attractive, will lead to the theater through the Temple building, and the room now occupied by the Temple Theater will be used for a mercantile house. The south wall between the arcade and the store room will be largely of plateglass permitting the store to exhibit displays of merchandise to theater-goers. The other wall will be of tile. It is the intention to have the theater completed and ready to open by May 1, 1917. Welch & Mead, the present proprietors of the Temple Theater, will be the proprietors of the new theater and they plan to book first class road shows and to run vaudeville and moving picture attractions in between. Preliminary plans and specifications have been made and everything is in readiness for the beginning of work as soon as the \$10,000 bonds are sold. These bonds will be secured by a first mortgage on the whole property and a guarantee of six per cent dividends will be given. The \$30,000 valuation will include the site, building proper, arcade and furnishings. These furnishings will be strictly modern. All of the downstairs seats will be upholstered in leather and the draperies and stage settings will match. Pendleton's location makes it an ideal place for big shows to stop in making the trip from Salt Lake to Portland. Being on the main line, the city offers a much better inducement than does Walla, Walla, and the one big obstacle to shows stopping here has been the lack of an up-to-date theater.

ARABIC ORDINARY PASSENGER SHIP

BRITISH GOVERNMENT INFORMS UNITED STATES VESSEL WAS NOT IN ADMIRALTY SERVICE. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The British government informed the state department the steamer Arabia was not a transport and not in the admiralty service. It was an ordinary passenger liner when submerged without warning. It is admitted she carried a few government passengers. The state department announced after the British note was received: "The British contend the Arabia was never in the admiralty service and never in the service of any allied power. A number of government passengers who were aboard will be communicated with later. It is understood no Asiatics were aboard except an Indian native crew. It was off the regular trade route on account of submarine danger." Germany admitted sinking the Arabia without warning. She claimed Asiatic workmen and soldiers were aboard. She said the submarine commander believed the ship a transport.

NOTE INVESTIGATION WELCOME TO LANSING

Government Officials Say Secretary Would Be Glad to Probe Into Wall Street Fluctuations Following His Two Interpretations. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Administration officials said Secretary Lansing would welcome representative Wood's proposed investigation to ascertain whether government officials profited by the Wall street fluctuations following Lansing's two statements interpreting Wilson's note. It is stated officials will exercise unusual care hereafter to prevent premature information causing price upsets. The government officials admitted they were worried over the fact that knowledge of Wilson's note reached Wall street before its publication.

Had Fighting Jaz

Officer Billy Seiber last night arrested a man who gave the name of Webb who had acquired a "fighting jaz." The man put up a scrap and it took four men to land him in jail. He was still bellicose in court this morning and drew a 18 day sentence.

Partition Suit Filed

Lula Schwarz has brought suit against Magdalene Louise Stahl Schickora, and other heirs of Catharine E. Stahl to secure a partition of the property left in the estate. Evans and Watson of Walla Walla are attorneys for the plaintiff.

An Eight Pound Boy

Early this afternoon an eight pound son was born at St. Anthony's hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hatton.