

BRITISH LOSE 1 IN AIR BATTLE

Daring Attack on German Port Unprecedented.

Attempt to "Dig Out" Warships of Teutons Results in Battle of Ultra Modern Forces.

London—Assisted by light cruisers, destroyers and submarines, seven British naval airmen, piloting seaplanes, made a daring attack Christmas day on the German naval base of Cuxhaven, at the mouth of the Elbe.

Six of the airmen returned safely, but the seventh, Commander Hewlett, it is feared, has been lost, as his machine was found off Heligoland.

What damage was done by the bombs thrown by the attacking party could not be ascertained, but the German report of the affair says that the raid was fruitless.

The enterprise of the British navy in thus attempting to "dig out" the German fleet brought about a battle in which the most modern of war machines, the British squadron, including the light cruisers *Arctura* and *Undaunted*, which have been engaged in previous exploits on the German coast, were attacked by Zeppelins, seaplanes and submarines.

By rapid maneuvers the ships were able to avoid the submarines, while the Zeppelins found the fire of the cruisers too dangerous for them to keep up the fight. German seaplanes dropped bombs, which, according to the British account, fell harmlessly into the sea. The Germans, however, reported they hit two destroyers and their convoy, the latter being set afire.

The British ships remained in the vicinity for three hours without being attacked by any surface warships and picked up the seven pilots and their planes.

The others were picked up by submarines, but their machines were sunk. Commander Hewlett, it is thought, was drowned.

Bomb Is Exploded by Fanatic in Hindu Temple

San Francisco—In the midst of the mystic services of an Oriental cult, a stranger identified only by the name of Vevara, Sunday entered the crowded little auditorium of the Hindu temple here and at the very feet of the officiating Hindu swami exploded a bomb, which literally tore the bomb-thrower to pieces, probably fatally wounded Swami Trigunatita, the leader, and threw scores of worshippers, mostly women, into a panic.

The stranger entered the temple while the swami was in the midst of his address on "The Divine Peace," and with loud steps that attracted the attention of all the members of the cult, walked up the center aisle until he reached the rostrum on which the swami was conducting the services.

While the eyes of all followed his actions, wondering at the meaning of his strange conduct, the man was seen to withdraw a small white package from his black fedora hat and strike it three times on the rostrum.

As his arms descended for the third time there was a fearful explosion that appeared to rock the entire building, filed the air with debris and flying glass. Blood and fragments of the body of the bomb-thrower splattered the congregation, for the moment transfixed in their seats with the horror of the action.

Italy Will Hold Albania Firmly.

Rome—It is reliably reported here that the Italian foreign office has notified the powers that Italy is determined that deliberations of the London conferences in connection with Albania shall be unconditionally respected, hence she will not tolerate the slightest attempt against the territorial integrity, independence or neutrality of Albania, will not allow a change of government, and will prevent inhabitants from participating in the war.

The present revolution, the note continues, obviously was projected to create complications; but unless these complications are avoided, Italy will exercise complete liberty of actions toward the restoration of order, despite the lack of interest of some of the signatory powers of the London conference.

Turks Send Heavy Guns.

Athens, via Rome—The Turks are transporting heavy guns from Adrianople to points on the Sea of Marmora, near the Rosporus, especially Santo Stefano and Kadi Koi, on opposite sides of the entrance to the Bosphorus and commanding the approach to Constantinople from the Sea of Marmora. It is indispensable that the Dardanelles be defended strongly, since the forcing of the straits means the end of Turkey.

Hobson's "Dry" Resolution Meets Defeat in House

Washington, D. C.—The Hobson resolution to submit a constitutional amendment for national prohibition to the state legislatures was defeated in the house Wednesday night, 197 members voting for and 189 against it. An affirmative vote of two-thirds was required to adopt the resolution.

Party lines were wiped out in the struggle. Democratic Leader Underwood and Republican Leader Mann fought shoulder to shoulder at the head of the forces opposing the resolution. When the vote came, of the 197 standing for the resolution, 114 were Democrats, 68 Republicans and 11 were Progressives and four were Independent Republicans.

Immediately after announcement of the vote, the house adjourned, the crowds which had packed the galleries throughout the prolonged debate dispersing with mingled expressions of regret and jubilation.

Prohibition leaders declared that the majority for the resolution had fulfilled their expectations, as they had not hoped for a two-thirds vote at this time. Whether a similar resolution pending in the senate submitted by Senator Sheppard, of Texas, would reach a vote in the senate at this session was not certain. Administration leaders were inclined to believe, however, that it would not, in view of the action of the house.

Notwithstanding repeated public assertions that many members of the house would try to dodge a record vote on the issue, the rollcall disclosed a heavy attendance, larger than the average throughout the session.

On the final vote 386 votes were recorded. To have carried the resolution would have required 258 affirmative votes. It thus failed by 61 votes.

It was at the conclusion of one of the most stirring contests of recent days in congress, and following votes on several amendments that the final vote was reached. Representative Hobson had closed the general debate, participated in by all the house leaders, many of whom were repeatedly cheered by men and women in the crowded galleries. Speaker Clark repeatedly admonished the spectators to maintain order.

Although advocates of the Hobson resolution freely predicted that it would receive a majority vote, many of them, including Mr. Hobson, had conceded at the start that the resolution would not receive the two-thirds vote necessary for its adoption.

Before the final roll call, Representative Hobson presented an amendment, which was adopted, giving to "the congress and states concurrently" the power to enforce the prohibition by needful legislation.

An amendment offered by Representative Adamson to give the states absolute control of prohibition under the proposed prohibition amendment was voted down on a rising vote, 179 to 32.

Louisiana Germans Plot to Destroy French Ship

New Orleans—The arrest here Wednesday night of four Germans is believed by the police to have frustrated a plot to blow up the French steamship *Rochambeau*. The police confiscated a box containing 75 pounds of dynamite set by clockwork to explode six and one-half days hence. The prisoners, two of whom are said by the authorities to have confessed, said they understood the *Rochambeau* was to sail from New York Saturday. Shipping records, however, show that she left New York December 13, and the police believed the alleged conspirators miscalculated the date of her departure. Two of those arrested confessed, according to the police.

The plan, it was said, was to ship the bomb by express consigned to the *Rochambeau* at New York. It was intended that the vessel would be blown up after she got to sea.

Worry over the prospective loss of innocent lives is believed responsible for discovery of the plot. One of those arrested, Peter Langlaan, when questioned by detectives who have been at work on the case for ten days, is said to have told them that while he was willing to blow up a French or English ship he was not willing to see persons not directly connected with the war die.

On information given by Langlaan, the police arrested Frank Helon, alias Hans Heller, and held him on a charge of preparing explosives for shipment in violation of the Federal statute.

Filibuster Is Destroyed.

Brownsville, Tex.—A filibustering party from Texas was "met and completely destroyed" by Carranza troops opposite Zapata, Tex., near here, December 20, according to a message received by the Carranza commander at Matamoros, Mexico. The message said a dozen horses, 50 rifles and 2000 rounds of ammunition were captured.

ITALIAN FORCES TAKE AVLONA

Precautions Taken to Forestall Reign of Anarchy.

Turkish Ruler Loses Hold on Pop- ulace—Scarcity of Provision Accentuates Crisis.

Rome—Italy Saturday occupied Avlona, the Albanian seaport. It is semi-officially announced that this action implies no purpose on the part of Italy to occupy interior points, but is merely intended to prevent anarchy on the opposite coast of the Adriatic, which is but a few hours from Italian territory.

Several districts of Albania are in a state of rebellion against any authority, Essad Pasha, the Turkish ruler, apparently having lost his hold on the people.

The semi-official announcement says that the only object of occupation is to cut short constant annoyances from open or concealed enemies, besides holding up Italian interests, namely, not to allow Avlona to fall into the hands of any naval power.

It is understood that the Italian government intends to safeguard these political, commercial and ethnographical interests without arrogance, but without weakness and also without being distracted from the graver issues arising from the European conflict.

For some time the situation in Albania has again been grave. Several districts have rebelled altogether against any authority and have become prey to the worst form of anarchy. Conditions have been rendered more grave by famine. The scarcity of food has been brought about through the absolute isolation of Albania owing to the state of war existing on the Adriatic, while Albania is bounded by two belligerent countries, Serbia and Montenegro, which, together with Austria, have absorbed all available provisions which Albania had stored.

The price of food has increased 210 per cent, and in addition the quality of cereals is bad, causing serious epidemics.

Especially in the interior discontent reached such proportions that Essad Pasha lost all power. He saw his adherents gradually vanish, his troops become reduced to a few thousand. Even the people of his birthplace, Tirana, always his stronghold, rebelled, killing his friends and sacking and burning his residence. Essad, feeling unsafe at Durazzo, went to Krola (Akhissar) hoping there to rally sufficient troops to defeat his enemies.

Dozen Prisoners Walk Free at Walla Walla

Walla Walla, Wash.—A real Christmas tree with remembrances for every convict made Christmas a notable occasion at the penitentiary. The gaily decorated tree was in the chapel, where the exercises were held, and each prisoner was given a bag of peanuts and popcorn and an orange. In addition he had his fill at a chicken dinner and listened to a program of songs, recitations and talks with band music interspersed.

Convicts also received presents of reading matter, food, etc., from friends and relatives all over the state, it being probably the most elaborate Christmas ever passed at the prison.

Papers arrived for 14 prisoners and 12 of them were released. The others were in the hospital or waiting to hear from relatives who agreed to send them money. While there were a total of 35 paroles, pardons and releases, most of the men were at road camps. The list included some final releases for men on parole.

One Ostrich Meal for 1500.

Los Angeles—One baby ostrich, five months old and weighing more than 100 pounds dressed, was the piece de resistance at the Y. M. C. A. cafeteria for Christmas dinner, and 1500 persons were served.

Each of the babe's drumsticks weighed 16 pounds. In cooking the bird 125 pounds of dressing was made. This was made of 50 pounds of chestnuts, 50 pounds of butter, 25 pounds of onions, 50 pounds of bread, 25 heads of celery and one pound of mixed spices. A special oven six feet square was arranged to roast the gigantic bird.

Czar Holds 357,406 Foes.

London—According to a Petrograd dispatch to Reuter's Telegram company, the number of German prisoners registered is 1140 officers and 131,700 men; the number of Austrians registered is 3166 officers and 221,400 men. The Slav prisoners have asked for Russian naturalization so that they may be sent against the Turks.

General Scott Ready to Confer With Mexicans

Naco, Ariz.—General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, arrived here Monday and at once began an investigation of the Mexican border trouble here, which has resulted in the killing of five persons and the wounding of 47 by Mexican bullets crossing the line during the 10 weeks' siege of Naco, Sonora.

General Scott began a series of conversations with persons informed on Mexican affairs and also with those in touch with General Hill, the Carranza commander entrenched in Naco, Sonora, and Governor Maytorena, the Villa besieger. This investigation is preliminary to conferences General Scott expects to hold with Hill and Maytorena in an effort to secure some agreement which will eliminate further Mexican fighting along the border.

It is recognized that, whatever care the Mexican factions might exercise not to fire into the United States, stray bullets would continue to fall here, either through bad marksmanship or individual disobedience of orders.

General Scott's peace conference will be held with an army of 4700 men, under command of Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss, encamped opposite the Mexican battleground. The American army forces now consist of the Eleventh, Eighteenth and Twenty-second Infantry, 10 troops each of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry, and three batteries each of the Fifth and Sixth Field Artillery. This is a force greater than the combined forces of the two Mexican camps, with artillery also superior to that of the Mexicans.

Maytorena Will Withdraw.

Washington, D. C.—Consular Agent Carothers telegraphed the State department Monday that Governor Maytorena, commanding the Villa forces besieging General Hill's garrison at Naco, Sonora, was preparing to withdraw his troops to a point 10 or 12 miles from the border to eliminate the possibility of firing into American territory.

This move has been awaited by officials here since Provisional President Gutierrez announced that he had directed Maytorena to abandon the attack on Naco unless the operations could be carried on without sending bullets across the international line.

Brigadier General Bliss, in command of the artillery, infantry and cavalry concentrated about Naco, Ariz., to enforce the American government's demand that firing across the line cease, reported earlier in the day that Maytorena apparently had withdrawn.

Congress Will Consider Mail Department Reforms

Washington, D. C.—After several days of hot words, which culminated in an exchange of invitations to personal combat between Representatives Heflin, of Alabama, and Moon, of Tennessee, the house adopted a special rule to consider legislation for reforms demanded by the Postoffice department in connection with the annual postal appropriation bill.

A defection of Democrats from the leaders defeated a similar rule, which provided for consideration of amendments decreasing postmasters' salaries, the elimination of assistant postmasters, experimental substitution of contract service for the rural delivery service, increased salaries for rural carriers, changes in the compensation paid railroads for carrying the mails and other reorganization plans for the department.

The rule was passed late Tuesday with the provisions for cutting postmasters' salaries, abolishing assistant postmasters and the rural service substitution scheme eliminated.

A speech by Representative Moon following the defeat of the original rule, in which he intimated that some "railroad influence" had operated to shift Democratic votes, caused bitter debate.

Cotton Mills Reopen.

Lowell, Mass.—Orders were given by which the machinery of the Tremont and Suffolk cotton mills will be run 24 hours a day, beginning immediately. This applies particularly to the weaving department. About 2400 employees will be hired on the extra orders. An expected demand for fabrics early in the year is given as the reason for the increase in production.

Allies' Yser Loss 215,000.

Berlin, via The Hague and London—The Neusten Nachrichten prints a Brussels dispatch estimating the losses of the allies in the Yser campaign at 215,000 up to December 12. This total is made up of 60,000 Belgians, 80,000 British and 75,000 French.

Kaiser Is Again at Front.

London—A dispatch to Reuter's Telegram company from Amsterdam says: "The German emperor has completely recovered and has returned to the front, according to an announcement from the Berlin main headquarters."

FLOODS DAMAGE SOUTHERN STATE

Arizona Submerged by Week's Continual Rainfall.

Many Homes Swept Away—Three Known Dead—Ranch Folk Marooned in Trees.

Tucson, Ariz.—Floods, the result of a week of practically unbroken rainfall, inflicted severe damage on nearly the entire area of the state lying between Phoenix and the Mexican border. Three persons, so far as known Thursday, have lost their lives; livestock by hundreds of head has been drowned; ranch houses and city residences wrecked or washed away by torrents roaring through what are normally dry arroyos, and traffic by rail, highway and wire either has been badly crippled or completely suspended.

A Southern Pacific train loaded with passengers still is marooned some where near Nogales. Floods completely surround it.

The most serious damage seems to have been suffered in that part of the Santa Cruz valley lying 30 miles south of here. The Santa Cruz river, swollen by the almost continuous rain of the past seven days, attained a width of more than 1 1/2 miles and the crest of the flood, after sweeping through Amado and the farming region round about, reached Tucson, wiping out bridges and houses and threatening to work further destruction.

Dozens of ranch dwellings were destroyed in the vicinity of Amado. Two Mexicans were drowned there after they had hung in the branches of trees for hours awaiting rescue. A United States soldier was reported to have been drowned in a big wash at Naco.

An open cut a mile long, containing 19 centrifugal pumps and other machinery costing \$500,000, which served the Tucson Farms company project, went under water. Poles coming down the river a little later indicated that the power lines had been destroyed.

At Bisbee floods tore through the deep canyons between the mountains and inundated portions of the business section. Gangs of city workmen were engaged there digging and scraping away a three-foot layer of sand deposited on the main streets by the flood, which receded almost as rapidly as it came.

Americans In Philippines Furnished Riot Guns

Manila—A government vessel Thursday distributed riot guns and ammunition to the American civilians on Caragao and Fraile islands in the bay. One hundred rounds of ammunition and the necessary field equipment have been issued to the soldiers in the Cuartel Espana in Manila.

Several barrels shipped to Corregidor island supposed to contain cement were found to be full of bolos. The native scout officers disarmed their companies and confined them at Corregidor. The plan was to free the prisoners by a sudden night attack, to overpower the scant guard, man the guns and capture the island. The date had been fixed between Christmas and New Years. If nipped, the uprising was to be postponed until March.

Leper's Exile Is Costly.

St. Louis—How a Greek leper, Anastasio Loizos, recently discovered in St. Louis, was taken secretly to New York and put in the isolated ward of a trans-Atlantic liner for deportation at an expense of approximately \$1000 to the United States immigration bureau at St. Louis, became known here Thursday. A special car was engaged at a cost of \$500 and permission was obtained from the board of health of every state between St. Louis and New York through which the railroad runs. A government revenue cutter carried the leper to the ship.

Pope Is Not Encouraged.

Rome—Pope Benedict, in addition to continuing his efforts for peace, is trying to obtain the consent of the belligerent powers to an exchange of war prisoners. The answer to his proposals thus far received and the difficulties of various kinds that are being encountered are said to incline the Pontiff to the belief that his initiative will meet with no better success than his request for a truce at Christmas-tide.

Kaiser Urges Son as King.

London—The Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent says: "Germany is energetically pushing the candidature of Prince Eitel Frederick for the throne of Hungary, the independence of which is expected to be one result of the war." Prince Eitel Frederick is the second son of Emperor William.