

RUSSIANS DEAL TURK INVADERS CRUSHING BLOW

Rout of Moslems in Caucasus With Defeat of Plan to Seize Kars Makes Invasion of Egypt Impossible—Entire Corps Annihilated—Heavy Blow at Hungary.

LONDON, Jan. 6, 12:32 p. m.—The crushing blow the Russians appears to have dealt the Turks in the Caucasus, and the further advance of the French in Alsace on the road to Muelhausen continue to hold the foreground in the war news today in the absence of any other important developments east or west.

It is felt in England that the reported rout of the Turkish invaders of the Caucasus, with the defeat of their plan to seize the Russian fortress at Kars, gives the Ottoman forces such a setback that the much discussed invasion of Egypt is now vitally out of the question; at the same time the pressure on the Russians from the east has been so far relieved as to preclude any necessity of withdrawing Russian forces from the Polish and Galician fronts for service in the Caucasus.

Defeat at Ardahan Petrograd reports that the Turkish army defeated at Ardahan (40 miles southwest of Kars), which is distinct from the forces reported to have been crushed or captured at Sari Kamysh, was today completely surrounded and being harassed by Russian cavalry and "doomed to inevitable extermination." It was added that the Turks were fighting with great bravery and determination, but against hopeless odds as the roads along which they sought to retreat were blocked by deep snows.

This is the defeat of a Turkish army corps which Grand Duke Nicholas referred to yesterday in his message to General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French forces. This dispatch announced also the capture of the entire Turkish Ninth Army Corps at Sari Kamysh, and the fact that such a communication has been exchanged between the allied leaders in the east and in the west is taken in London to indicate that the Russian claim is neither exaggerated nor premature.

Strike at Hungary While there has been virtually no change to the west of Warsaw, it is the opinion of British observers of events that the Russian general staff is giving many indications of an intention to strike a heavy blow in Hungary. With Bukovina occupied, the time is ripe for an invasion of Transylvania, an eastern province of Hungary bordering on Roumania. Nearly 3,000,000 of the population of this territory are of Roumanian stock. According to a contention of the allies these people may be expected to seize the opportunity to throw off the

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VILLA PROHIBITS CATTLE EXPORTS FROM MEXICO

EL PASO, Texas, Jan. 6.—General Villa has issued an order, effective today, prohibiting the exportation of all cattle from territory controlled by the convention forces. This action was taken, it was said, for fear of a meat famine in northern and central Mexico.

It is believed that the 8000 Villa troops on their way to Sonora to assist in the Naco campaign have crossed from Chihuahua City by way of Madera, Chihuahua and thence overland, instead of via Juarez and Casas Grandes.

General Villa is expected here today to confer with General Scott, Provisional President Gutierrez of the convention, has repeated his order to Governor Maytorena, to desist from further attacks on border towns until completion of the Scott-Villa conference here. Villa has remained silent on the matter.

SUBWAY FIRE RAISES HAVOC IN NEW YORK

One Person Killed, Two Hundred Sent to Hospitals and Transportation System of City Demoralized in the Worst Subway Disaster Yet Recorded.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—New York's subway was visited by fire and panic today which sent 200 persons to hospitals, caused the death of one woman and demoralized the transportation system of the city. The fire was said to have been an electrical explosion in a conduit between the Fifty-fifth and Fifty-ninth street stations. The noise, flame, and smoke terrified 700 passengers of two downtown trains stalled. In their efforts to escape scores were badly bruised, many knocked unconscious and others overcome by smoke.

The subway service, according to Commissioner McCall of the public service commission may be tied up several days as a result of the accident. If it proves true it will mean that the more than a million persons a day carried by subway trains will be diverted to the surface and elevated systems and cause a congestion without parallel in the history of the city.

At first it was believed there had been a terrible catastrophe and reports reached police headquarters that at least a score had been killed. The entire department, all ambulances in the city and the pulmonator squad, were rushed to the scene. Smoke poured out of the subway entrances, manholes and ventilators and screams for help could be heard. It turned out that early reports had been exaggerated. As it was, however, the accident was described by the police as the worst subway disaster that has occurred here.

FRENCH BLOW UP CAPTURE TRENCH FROM GERMANS

LONDON, Jan. 6.—A German trench nearly a half mile long in the Argonne region was blown up by the allies, according to today's official statement from Paris. The French then made an infantry attack and captured half of the trench. During this charge a grandson of the Italian patriot, Garibaldi, was killed. The recent death in action of another grandson was said in Rome to have reawakened the war spirit in Italy.

Aside from the fighting in the Argonne, activity is limited chiefly to upper Alsace, where the Germans seem to have checked the French advance. The only claim made in the French statement is that the ground won has been held. The loss of one position to the Germans is admitted. The Berlin war office states that the French are bombarding towns to the rear of the German lines, and "seem indifferent to the killing of their own countrymen and to the destruction of French homes." The capture of several trenches from the allies is reported.

DEATH DUE TO POISON HUSBAND IS HELD

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—Chemical determination that poison caused the death of Mrs. Alice Ronalds Friday in her home at Mattoon, Ill., was announced today in the coroner's report.

Mrs. Ronalds was found unconscious and died without making a statement. Her husband, Dr. H. E. Ronalds and C. O. Purcell and his wife, found in the house at the time, have been held under surveillance. The house was in great disorder. There were evidences of a wild celebration. Mrs. Ronalds' face was bruised and scratched.

WAR PROGRESS SATISFACTORY TO LORD KITCHENER

British War Secretary Reviews December Campaign—Noteworthy Progress Made—Servians Praised—Allies Daily Increasing Resources to Prosecute War to End.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—War Secretary Lord Kitchener seized the occasion this afternoon at the meeting of the house of lords to inform the nation of the progress of the war and of the military situation so far as military exigencies permitted. The house of lords had reassembled for a brief session. Addressing it, Lord Kitchener said:

"During the month of December the allied forces made progress at various points, but the tide of battle ebbed and flowed with varying success.

"In spite of the unfavorable weather, the French army made noteworthy progress to the east of Rheims and in southern Alsace.

Sums Up Situation "Notwithstanding the transfer of German troops to the eastern theater of the war, they left sufficient strength to hold their trenches in the west.

"German aspirations in Poland have suffered a severe check, and it is evident that they realize the infinite difficulty of winter operations in Russia.

"One of the brightest spots in the military operations during December has been the extraordinary achievements of the gallant Serbian army.

"Last night we received news," Lord Kitchener declared, "of a Russian victory in the Caucasus which should have a far-reaching effect on all the Turkish operations."

To Triumphant End "The great advantages which Germany enjoyed by reason of her superiority of numbers and extensive war preparations have certainly diminished, while the allies daily are increasing their resources in such a way as to enable them to prosecute the war to a triumphant end.

"The training of the Canadian contingent of the new armies has been carried on under the worst weather conditions, but in spite of this, a great deal of extremely good work has been done during the last month. Discomforts and hardships due to the storm and mud have been cheerfully met and both officers and men are imbued with one common thought—preparing themselves as thoroughly and rapidly as possible to take part in the field where, I am sure, they will worthily support their comrades in arms."

OKLAHOMA BANKS MUST CASH UP

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Jan. 6.—One hundred former state banks, which, it is said, sought to avoid paying bank depositors guarantee fund assessments by securing national charters prior to 1913, today faced the necessity of paying more than \$600,000 to the state as a result of a decision yesterday by the Oklahoma supreme court that the amount mentioned as due the guarantee fund is a just debt. The court held that nationalization did not free state banks from liability to the bank fund incurred while they operated under state laws.

BOTHNIA RAILROAD LINE IS COMPLETED

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Jan. 6.—The railroad circling the Gulf of Bothnia, the northern extension of the Baltic Sea, was virtually completed today. Up to the present time there has been a gap of ten miles over which passengers from Stockholm to Petrograd had to drive. Now this is reduced to half a mile.

CONFER FOR PEACE ALONG MEXICAN BORDER



EMIL MOHR OFFERS \$100 FOR FIRST SACK OF SUGAR MADE HERE

"I see that a farmer has offered \$100 for the first sack of sugar made by the proposed beet sugar factory to be located in the Rogue River valley," stated Mine Host Emil Mohr of the Hotel Medford, Wednesday.

OPEN SHOP RULES OHIO COAL FIELDS

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 6.—Eastern Ohio coal operators at a meeting decided today to open their mines under the "open shop" plan. Striking miners who have been idle since April 1 will be given first opportunity to fill the jobs under the scale offered by the operators.

COMMERCIAL CLUB HOLDS ANNUAL MEET AT LIBRARY TONIGHT

The Medford Commercial club will hold its annual meeting and election of directors in the public library on Wednesday evening, January 6, at 7:30. It was thought advisable not to have the usual banquet and entertainment at this time, but to thoroughly discuss and outline efficient management and intensity of action in the Commercial club work for 1915. Come and offer some good suggestions.

NEW YORK ASSEMBLY ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Thaddeus C. Sweet of Oswego was selected today as speaker of the assembly, and Elton R. Brown of Watertown, president of the senate. Both are republicans. There are only three progressives in the New York state legislature which convened today but in view of the course taken by the Illinois progressives last night in joining the republicans, the attitude of the New York legislators belonging to that party was awaited with great interest.

A Business Arrangement

To the Public: Different people find different things in the new charter to commend it. To the property owner who finds it hard to pay his improvement assessments—the provisions making it easier to pay and that makes it almost impossible to make such improvements over the head of a protest of a majority of property-owners, is of special interest.

To the citizen that is tired of registering every time he wants to vote, the fact that the new charter wipes out this nuisance makes it look good to him.

To the man who studies all items of public expense and keeps tab of what public officials are doing with the taxpayers' money, the most excellent book-keeping requirements and reports to the public that a child could understand, count the most.

But above all that, it seems to me that the average business man should look at the fact that the new charter, following the demonstrations made in many other American cities where they have made good, has adopted for handling the city's affairs just the methods of administration that have made all big business enterprises successful. It is a strictly business arrangement, and that means good and cheap management. It has so resulted in every city that has tried it. It will do the same in Medford. CHAS. M. ENGLISH.

PURDIN ADVOCATES RETURN TO PROGRESSIVE METHODS OF ADMINISTERING CITY AFFAIRS

Mayor in Annual Message Questions Wisdom of "Penny-Splitting Methods of Doing Business"—Declares No Reward for Duty Well Done for Knocker With His Little Hammer Always With Us—City Not Dead, But Badly Jolted by Curstone Pessimists—Favors New Charter, as it Simplifies Government and Places Responsibility Where It Belongs.

Questioning the wisdom of a "penny-splitting method of doing business" for the city, advocating a return to progressive methods, declaring that Medford is "a good old town, not dead yet, but badly jolted by some of our pessimistic friends"; championing the new charter and the election of men of business qualifications on the city council, "who will give a progressive administration," Mayor Purdin Tuesday evening presented his message concerning the administration of city business during the past year. His message reads as follows:

Permanent Improvements "For the year 1914 there is little to report in the way of permanent improvements. What has been done in this line is simply a closing up of some small paving jobs, and the laying of a few lateral sewers, and the construction of some concrete sidewalks, a number of which have been ordered in prior to this year, but not constructed until 1914. While there have been a number of repairs on the different properties of the city, none of them can be properly called new, and have been only of such a nature as to try and keep the property in as good condition as could be done without great expense.

City Water System Receipts of the city water system show a slight falling off for the year 1914 from those of 1913. The receipts for 1913, as shown by my last annual report, were \$32,806.13, and for the year 1914, from figures obtained from the city recorder, they appear to be \$32,697.47, and the disbursements for 1914 are \$10,132.36, as against disbursements for 1913 of \$13,984.66, a saving of some considerable sum. In addition to the receipts shown for 1914, there have been a number of certificates redeemed from water-users, the amount of which will have to be ascertained from the report of the proper department, and which have not been furnished me.

The City Court In February, 1914, the city council appointed Charles B. Gay as judge of the city court, and he has been paid in salary the sum of \$8260, and the receipts of the court for the year 1914 are shown to be the sum of \$1128.75, leaving a balance of \$928.75 to the credit of this fund, and in addition the city has had the benefit, if it was a benefit, of 152 1/2 days work on the streets by persons sentenced not having money to pay fines.

Street and Road Department The street and road department has been crippled the past year for the reason that it was short some \$12,000 from the county on road tax. Figures from the office showing receipts in the sum of \$12,954.72 and part of this was transfers from other funds, and disbursements in the sum of

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and who were directed to work out their fines. Sewer District No. 13 It seems that this bone of contention must be handed down from each outgoing administration to the next, as the matter is as far from settlement as ever. Another suit in the circuit court having been decided against the city. Let us hope that the year 1915 may see this matter settled and settled right. As it now is, the warrants issued in payment for this work, when it was completed, are yet unpaid, and likely the city will be called on at any time to take them up. Sewer District No. 13 has surely been a source of trouble to several city councils, and the end is not yet; though it would seem likely, from the talk of our political managers that orate on the streets, this was a matter they could have easily settled.

Sinking Funds My annual report for 1913 showed the sum of \$5610.62 as being in the sinking funds at that time, and to this there has been added, as shown by the figures from the office of the city recorder, the sum of \$6492.86, making a total of \$12,103.48, which is something like \$25,000 less than it should be, but it seems as each year rolls by that the cry for less taxes grows more insistent, and that it is not possible to have a proper sum set apart for this fund. This matter rises each year to confront the new city council, which must blame the ones preceding for not doing their duty in this matter, and so it runs on, and when the time for payment of the bonds arrives, then something will have to be done. One thing is sure, and that is the water fund could take care of a large amount of this fund each year if it was used for the purpose and not diverted to other funds, but as money must be had to carry on the work provided to be paid for from other funds and no appropriation is made to keep such funds intact for their purposes, then transfers from the water fund will follow as in the past.

CLAIM ANGELES HELD PRISONER BY GENERAL OBREGON

NACO, Arizona, Jan. 6.—General Felipe Angeles, Villa's chief subordinate and said to be his choice for provisional president of Mexico, was captured yesterday when General Alvaro Obregon drove the Villa-Zapata army out of Puebla, according to messages from Vera Cruz received today by General Hill, commanding the Carranza garrison of Naco, Sonora. The capture of Angeles caused much rejoicing among the Carranza soldiers. Angeles was in command of the army defeated by Obregon.

PRZEMYSL SORTIE FATAL TO GARRISON DEFENDING FORT

PETROGRAD, via London, Jan. 6, 3:09 p. m.—The Novoe Vremya says that a recent sortie by the Austrian garrison which is defending Przemysl, the date of which is not given, resulted in the complete annihilation of the Austrian force.

The sortie was preceded by extensive reconnaissance. The Austrian infantry advanced in force in the direction of a forest near the city. The Russians opened fire, but the Austrians rushed forward and gained the cover of the woods. They continued to push forward and the Russians permitted them to advance close to their positions before making a serious effort to halt them. With the fighting thus at close range the Russians opened up a terrific fire from rifles and machine guns. It is said that not one of the forces which made the sortie regained the fortress, those who were not killed or wounded being captured. The temperature at Przemysl is close to zero.