

BOLSHEVIK RULE IN RUSSIA FAILS

Members of Constituent Assembly Defy Government Opposition to Maximalist Through Russia Grows

Social Revolutionists Refuse to Submit to Lenine and Trotsky; Ukrainians Remain in Alliance With Cossacks Against Bolsheviki

By Courier Leased Wire.

Petrograd, Friday, Dec. 21.—M. Tchernoff, former minister of agriculture and Mme. Catherine Breshkovskaya and other Social Revolutionist members of the Constituent Assembly, have proclaimed their determination not to submit to Premier Lenine and Foreign Minister Trotsky, but to convene the assembly and to endeavor through it to carry out a program of peace and land freedom.

The total number of members elected to the Constituent Assembly is now 368, but only 48 of these have been registered as members by the Bolsheviki.

PEASANTS' CONGRESS DIVIDED

London, Dec. 22.—The meagre news reports from Petrograd indicate a serious division in the Peasants' Congress, which has been in session for a fortnight in Petrograd. The right wing, led by M. Tchernoff, insists that all power shall be given to the Constituent Assembly, which will decide upon peace, the land question and other reforms, while the left is dominated by the Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates. The latter take the position that the Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates should be given authority above that of the Constituent Assembly. All has a slight majority.

Officers of the Baltic fleet have adopted a resolution protesting against the latest reform which places the supreme command of the fleet in the hands of the elected sailors and makes all posts elective. The resolution of the present declares that the reform, if carried out, will paralyze the fleet and prevent peace on a democratic basis, because if impotent Russia peace will be dictated by the imperialists of the enemy.

Bolsheviki Rule Failing. Opposition by the Ukrainians and the followers of General Kaledines to the Bolsheviki movement, together with an unconfirmed report that the Germans have rejected the peace proposals of the Bolsheviki delegates, continue to overshadow military operations in the European theatre. The chief of the alliance has been formed between the Ukrainians and the Don Cossacks gives credence to another rumor that the Ukrainian Rada has definitely notified the Bolsheviki commissioners that it will not reconsider its action in aiding the Kaledines force.

The German attacks in Alsace have been repulsed, according to the French war office. The chief of these attacks at Hartmanns-Werkopf took the Germans into the first line French trenches. But in the engagement that followed they were driven out with heavy losses. At other points along the French front, artillery activity has been intermittent, except at Courieres wood in the Campagne region. Rheims has again been shelled by the Germans. In Flanders the Belgian war office reports artillery activity, though less intense because of fog.

MERCHANTS CORNER

The first requirement of a good ad is a good product. Copy written with mental reservations kills confidence. The salesman is the only man who has to be cheerful 100 per cent. of the time.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, Dec. 22.—The weather has turned much colder in Ontario and Quebec, while in the West it has been very little change in temperature. Forecasts. Fair and cold to-day. Sunday—Some local snow flurries, but generally fair, stationary or a little higher temperature.

VICTORY LOAN PRIZE ESSAYS IN THE COUNTY

Excellent Results From the Rural Pupils—The Prize Winners

The Victory Loan essay competition among pupils of the public schools of the county for prizes amounting to twenty-five dollars, offered by Messrs. Hope and A. K. Bunnell, who organized the Victory Loan campaign for this county, resulted as given below. For each of the five grades from the second form to the senior fourth, three prizes of \$2.50, \$1.50 and \$1 respectively are awarded. About 280 pupils, representing every municipality in the county, contributed essays, consequently the competition was keen. Naturally most of them followed more or less closely the lines of the literature of the campaign, but here and there a good deal of originality was shown and, needless to say, many schools that are not represented in the prize list, did good work. While the competition no doubt assisted in promoting the campaign for the loan, it also proved a valuable exercise in practical composition for the schools.

The following is the award of prizes:

- Senior Fourth—1, Ernest Buck, No. 5 E. Dumfries; 2, Florence McArter, Burford, P.S.; 3, Mary Sullivan, Cainsville. Junior Fourth—1, Agnes Morton, Glenmorris; 2, Nancy Askew, Grandview; 3, Myrtle Clement, No. 1 A. Brantford. Senior Third—1, Madeline Martin, Burford P.S.; 2, Dorothy Bringle, Paris P.S.; 3, James Macauley, Glenmorris. Junior Third—1, George Alderson, Grandview; 2, Jean Edmondson, Paris P.S.; 3, Ida Briggs, Mt. Pleasant. Second—1, Dorothy Meadows, Mt. Vernon; 2, Gwendyth Pryce, Grandview; 3, David Armstrong, Paris P.S.

LEAVE FROM FRONT Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Marsh have received word from Branshott camp in England, of the arrival of their son Irvin, on six weeks' leave of absence from the trenches. Pte. Marsh has seen 14 months active service in France, going over in the first draft from the 125th battalion, and has so far escaped without a scratch.

Get Christmas Club Bag at Coles Shoe Co., 122 Colborne street.

SCENES FROM THE HALIFAX DISASTER



ONLY THE WALLS REMAIN, LIKE A CHURCH IN DEVASTATED BELGIUM. Five hundred of the congregation of St. Joseph's Church, seen at the right hand side of the picture, were killed and many injured while at mass. Yet, this church was situated about a mile from the place where the explosion took place.



SCENE DIRECTLY NORTH OF NORTH STREET STATION WITHIN HOUR OF ACCIDENT. Already crowds were beginning to survey the destruction wrought and some of it is apparent from the photograph. Telegraph poles have snapped off in the middle as by high explosive shells, their broken tops lying across the street on tracks. On the extreme left may be seen a squad of soldiers mobilizing, the officer turning round as if trying to figure out just where he means to start work.



ANOTHER VIEW OF RICHMOND PRINTING CO.'S BUILDING. This plant was situated on Old Campbell road and when it collapsed 30 girls and several men lost their lives. A wrecking party including a number of soldiers, are already beginning the seemingly hopeless task of shifting some of the debris in an effort to find the bodies.

FACTORYMEN CALLED THE MAYOR LAST NIGHT

Workmen's Branch of Patriotic Fund Association Demanded Proof That Soldiers' Wives Had Been Intimated

Complete endorsement of the action of the president and secretary thus far regarding the sweeping statement made by Mayor Bowly on election night when he alleged wholesale corruption in the administration of the patriotic fund, to a large gathering in the Liberal club rooms, was given by the factories patriotic league

at their meeting held in the public library last night. A deputa-tion from the executive of the fund waited on the league and explained the situation since the unqualified charge was made by His Worship on Monday night. A strong resolution was passed expressing approval of the course of action thus far pursued by the members of the executive in seeking to secure a

retraction from Mayor Bowly. The Factories Patriotic League have eight representatives on the executive of the fund, and the resolution expressed the belief and conviction of the league that politics was not a factor in the work of the fund. Such being the case, the league desired Mayor Bowly publicly to give evidence to the contrary, if such is in his possession or to publicly state that he did not infer that the officials of the fund had stooped to intimidation during the election, nor had used their office toward the furtherance of the cause of any candidate.

Ex-Mayor John Spence explained the situation since its development. The statement had been made on election night by Mayor Bowly in the Liberal Club room that pressure had been exerted on soldiers' wives to vote for W. B. Cockshutt. His statement on that occasion was a sweeping one, and intimated wholesale corruption, leaving of course, the inference that the threats came from the office of the patriotic fund. Mayor Bowly, at a subsequent day during the week, in conversation with Mr. Spence, had said that a woman "with tears streaming

down her face" had come into his office and claimed that she had been told in the office of the patriotic fund, that if she did not vote for Mr. Cockshutt that her patriotic allowance would be cut off.

The true circumstances, said Mr. Spence, were these: the woman had been refused her regular check when it came due, by Secretary Thompson, acting under instructions from the executive, until such time as certain conditions were remedied. The lady, doubtless angered at the refusal, had expressed her intention before leaving the office, of interviewing Mayor Bowly and having him take up the matter.

Mr. Spence explained that it was due the public of Brantford to know that in the administration of the fund, politics and religion were not considered. The slur and slander that had been made before a large public gathering, by a man occupying such a position as did His Worship, could not be allowed to go unchallenged.

The executive had written Mayor Bowly asking him either to cite a specific instance or to retract his statements. He had replied through the press, but not satisfactory, and had evaded the issue. He had claim-

FRENCHMAN WOULD FORM NEW UNION

Alderman of Quebec City Would Unite Quebec and Maritime Provinces NEW CONFEDERATION Proposal That Quebec Withdraw From Dominion Not Taken Seriously

By Courier Leased Wire

Quebec, Dec. 22.—Alderman Eugene Dussalt, who took such an active part in the anti-conscription demonstrations here last summer, gave notice at the meeting of the city council last night of a motion to petition the Quebec Legislature to form a new confederation between the Province of Quebec and the Maritime provinces. Mayor Lavigne, Alderman Collier and Alderman Flest endeavored to induce the youthful member of the council to withdraw his motion, but he refused to do so.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—The Gazette does not regard seriously the proposal to separate Quebec from the other provinces. It says to-day editorially: "Mr. Francoeur, member for Lotbiniere, in the Legislative Assembly, has given notice of his intention to propose that Quebec should declare its readiness to secede from the confederation if, in the opinion of the other provinces, this province is an obstacle to the union and progress and development of Canada. Such a declaration requires little comment. It is the product of a narrow mind and others with narrow minds may be left to become excited over it. The wise and solid opinion of Quebec can be depended upon to treat it accordingly to its insignificance."

Laurier Not for Cabinet Montreal, Dec. 22.—With reference to the suggestion that Sir Wilfrid Laurier might be offered a place in the Union Government, and information from Ottawa that the offer is not likely to be made, The Gazette said to-day: "Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who, in spite of his wrong policy and his defeat, was an outstanding figure during the campaign, and will not be a negligible figure in the future, is best in his old place as leader of the Opposition."

Laborites Kicking Ottawa, Dec. 22.—At the meeting of the Allied Trades and Labor Association this evening, Delegate McDowell expressed himself as very pessimistic regarding the future of the recently formed Independent Labor Party, owing to the lack of support it had received so far from the Labor movement. He stated that in spite of the gas and hot air which was "shot off" at the Trades and Labor Congress he thought from present indications the day was still very far distant when Labor would be represented on the floor of the House of Commons. That such a state of things existed was to the everlasting shame of organized labor. He thought it a crying shame that throughout Canada, during the last election, labor had not been able to send a single man to parliament.

ed that he "was never known to tell a lie." Mr. Spence did not think that the custodian of the council chamber was entitled "to have wrapped about his majestic figure the mantle of George Washington," but expressed the belief that he would be more at home with that of certain biblical characters not noted for veracity.

Mayor Bowly, pointed out Mr. Spence, by virtue of his office as Mayor of the city, was a member of the executive of the patriotic fund, but since the inception of the fund, although he received a notice of every meeting, had not attended one. If the fund were not properly administered, Mayor Bowly should know of it through his connection, and if he did not know, it was an indication that he was not discharging his duties. H. T. Watt also addressed the members. He assured them, that politics nor religion were no factors (Continued on page three)