

## SPIES.

MILITARY INVESTIGATION  
ASKED IN BECKER CASE.  
WOULD DISMISS GLAUBITZ

Council Adopts Probing Committee's Report That General Manager Is Guilty of Aiding German Employee To Escape.

Adopting the report of the special committee appointed to probe the charges that Carl Becker, an employee of the public utilities commission was allowed to leave the country after war was declared with Germany, and that he was aided by General Manager H. J. Glaubitz, of the commission, the city council, in a special session last night, requested the militia department to take action on the case at once, and that the utilities commission suspend or dismiss General Manager Glaubitz, or any other employee at fault.

The main discussion of the session hinged on this particular phase of the question—the demand for the general manager's resignation—and it was only settled after a debate of more than an hour.

Others At Fault?

After Ald. J. C. McDonald had prepared a motion calling for immediate action on the part of the Militia Department and the suspension of Mr. Glaubitz until this report was completed, Controller V. E. Rose declared that all officials at fault, should be included. The report of the probe—passed unanimously—indicated that others were at fault, he said, and they, too, should come under the same head.

Ald. E. G. Mitchell, chairman of the special committee, objected. An attempt had been made, he said, to make Assistant Manager A. O. Hunt the scapegoat in the case. It was unfair to Mr. Hunt to make any imputation that would place him in the class of having aided and abetted an enemy of the King to escape.

The majority of the other members of the council thought otherwise. Their contention was that a thorough probe should be conducted into the question. The finding of the committee would be summed up by quoting the fifth clause of its comprehensive report, in which it says:

**Committee Calls Glaubitz Guilty.**

Your committee is of the opinion that Mr. Glaubitz is guilty of aiding a German to leave Canada for Germany to assist the enemy of this country, knowing that he was to take the place of a brother in the German army.

(b) That Mr. Glaubitz unlawfully used the commission's funds to pay salary for which no services were rendered the commission.

(c) That Mr. Glaubitz took no steps to prevent the said Becker from getting away, and that he was negligent in many, neither on the 24th or to the 15th of August.

When the report was first submitted to the council at its regular session Monday evening, it was sent back to the committee because the members had failed to interrogate Assistant Manager A. O. Hunt, the man who hired Becker, and who paid his salary, and allowed him to leave after Germany and Great Britain declared war. A special meeting was called Wednesday to hear Mr. Hunt's explanation, but he refused to attend, according to the committee, and asked that the question be submitted to him in writing.

Mayor Graham declared that Mr. Hunt had informed him that he had an important engagement at 10 o'clock, when the committee met, and therefore could not attend.

This statement of the assistant manager's refusal was the preliminary round of the debate. The report was then considered. Clause by clause it was taken up.

"Believe Me Knew."

The first objection came when the clause was presented declaring that Mr. Glaubitz knew the facts of the case, and that Becker was returning

THREE-CORNERED  
MAYORALTY FIGHT

Ald. Mitchell Drops Out, Leaving Stevenson, Graham and Wright in Field.

17 WOULD-BE ALDERMEN

Board of Control Attracts the Municipal Aspirations of Fourteen.

London is to have another three-cornered mayoralty contest. Mayor C. M. R. Graham, present holder of the office, and chief magistrate of the city for the past three years, is out once more for the office. He will be opposed by Public Utilities Commissioner H. A. Stevenson and by B. G. H. Wright, who will enter the lists as a temperance candidate.

Yesterday it was expected that Ald. F. G. Mitchell would throw his hat into the mayoralty ring, but he qualified as a candidate for the public utilities commission instead and left the field to Graham, Stevenson and Wright.

The mayor's announcement of his fourth term intentions created no surprise. It was a foregone conclusion that he would run once more for office. The only surprise was when Mr. Wright filed his qualification papers with City Clerk Baker.

**Three Qualify for Mayor.**

When the time limit for the qualification of municipal candidates expired at 9 o'clock last evening, the city clerk's official list showed a field of three for mayor; three for the two vacancies on the public utilities commission; ten for the four controllerships; seventeen for the aldermanic board, and fourteen for the board of education.

**FOR BOARD OF CONTROL.**

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W. W. GARDNER.  
JAS. P. MOORE.  
JOHN E. SAUNDERS.  
SAM STEVENS.  
J. F. FAULDS.  
JOHN P. MADON.  
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MAX LERNER.  
J. C. McDONALD.  
ADAM W. PALMER.  
CHAS. W. SIMMONS.  
WILLIAM A. WILSON.  
HENRY WINDLER.

**FOR SCHOOL TRUSTEE.**

H. W. ASHLEY.  
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CLAIR JARVIS.  
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R. W. SHAW.  
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SALISBURY HEARS RUMOR  
THAT ALDERSON WILL RETIRE

MONTREAL, Dec. 23.—The Montreal Star's special correspondent at Salisbury Plain cabled today as follows:

"A definite rumor is current that General Alderson is leaving the command of the Canadian division and that General Sir Archibald Hunter is to succeed him. The cause is said to be difficulties with Major-General Sam Hughes."

RUSSIANS SURPRISE AND  
WIPE OUT AUSTRIAN BRIGADE

Capture Four Thousand Prisoners in Two Days' Fighting in Southern Galicia—A Strong Russian Army Is Moving Toward Cracow.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 22, via London, Dec. 24.—1:59 a.m.—Russian troops in the neighborhood of Tuchow, Galicia, south of Tarnow, today on observing the advance of the Twenty-Sixth Austrian Brigade, slipped on parallel roads and surprised the Austrians from the rear, according to reports received here. The Russians opened fire with machine guns and virtually annihilated the whole brigade.

During the last two days fighting in southern Galicia near the Carpathians the Russians have captured over 4,000 prisoners, including a major of the general staff and five other officers, besides three heavy guns and seven machine guns. In this region the Russians, it is said, are moving small detachments through the mountain passes. In the recent Austrian force from Przemyśl the Russians captured a machine gun which they turned against the Austrians.

The Novos Vremya's correspondent in the Snochew neighborhood, Russian Poland, reports that along a twelve-mile front the Russians have captured four regiments of heavy cavalry, 150 light field guns and three corps of infantry. The Russians alleged that Polish German sympathizers are using windmills in the vicinity to signal the Germans concerning Russian movements.

**Crowding Toward Cracow.**

Large bodies of Russian troops are moving toward Cracow, the Galician stronghold, from the north and east. An important battle apparently is developing in southwestern Poland, near Cracow.

While the Germans are not relaxing their efforts along the line from Snochew to Siedlce in the movement toward Cracow, the Galician front, from the north and east. An important battle apparently is developing in southwestern Poland, near Cracow.

The Russians have moved back to positions along the left bank of the Nida River, near its junction with the Vistula, thirty miles east of Cracow. The objective of the Austro-German forces in this vicinity seems to be Kielce; the front extends about 70 miles from the right bank of the Nida. Their strength is estimated at eight to ten army corps (250,000 men).

The Teuton allies on Dec. 18 attacked Pinczow, 25 miles east of Kielce, and were successful in crossing the river. Subsequently, however, they were thrown back with heavy losses, after a desperate fight.

**Russians Along Pilica.**

The Russians are in force along the Pilica River, 20 miles southeast of Piotrkow. The gap between that position and the Vistula River is occupied by five divisions of German cavalry. The two Russian armies are seeking to close in, moving in the direction of Opoczno. Near the latter point, in the vicinity of Ryki, the Sheshboro, an Austrian force was defeated several days ago, losing 1,000 men and seventeen officers.

It is the opinion of Russian military authorities that the Austro-German forces are now concentrating their efforts on the Vistula River, near its junction with the Pilica River, 20 miles southeast of Piotrkow. The gap between that position and the Vistula River is occupied by five divisions of German cavalry. The two Russian armies are seeking to close in, moving in the direction of Opoczno. Near the latter point, in the vicinity of Ryki, the Sheshboro, an Austrian force was defeated several days ago, losing 1,000 men and seventeen officers.

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THE BUSY CHRISTMAS  
SHOPPING WILL END TONIGHT

And it is particularly gratifying to note that the 1914 Christmas season has been one of the best in the history of the store—both from the standpoint of volume of business and satisfaction in store service.

The selling staff is the largest today we have ever employed—being increased in number for the Christmas season. Some of the new and less experienced, also the more experienced, in haste are liable to make mistakes—and where will you find a store so ready to remedy any errors. But it must be said in justice to those who are endeavoring to do their best that there are fewer mistakes and better service this year than we ever knew—the fullest credit for which is due to the good-natured shoppers who have assisted us in every possible manner during the busy Christmas season. London and Western Ontario does not disappoint us and shall not be disappointed by this store.

Full Assortments of Christmas  
Gifts Reasonably Priced Are  
Still To Be Found Here

Basement—Toys, Leather Goods, Trunks, Bags, Suitcases, etc.

Main Floor—Linen, Umbrellas, Gloves, Hosiery, Fancy Goods, Silks, Dress Goods, and Toilet Articles.

Second Floor—Ladies' Ready-to-Wear, Blouses, Petticoats, House Robes, Sacques and Infants' Wear.

Third Floor—Furniture, Carpets and Rugs, Carpet Sweepers and Vacuum Cleaners.

Fourth Floor—Comforters, Blankets, Quilts, Curtains and Draperies.

Marvellous Varieties are here for the last hours' selling. Come and see if you can find any gaps in the great stocks laid in with full expectation of the great volume of business which has been done.

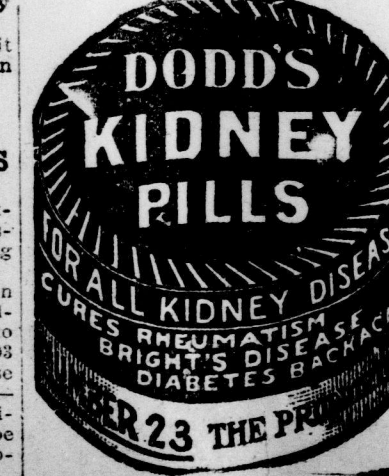
With this brief announcement we end the great Christmas season of 1914 with the season's greetings to all and best wishes for a merry Christmas Day tomorrow.

See announcement in this paper tomorrow of Year End Clearing Sales which will begin on Saturday morning.

Last Motor Delivery to outskirts of city will leave the store today at 4 o'clock. Last regular city delivery, 6 o'clock.

Cortese Orchestra Tonight.  
Main Floor Balcony,  
8 to 10 p.m.

Christmas Dinner Today.  
Roast Turkey and English Plum  
Pudding.  
Special, 35c.



**Furs! Furs! Furs!!!**

Handsome furs, of highest quality, at manufacturers' prices. Repairing and remodeling.

**HARTMAN**

300 DUNDAS ST. W. PHONE 377.

Open Evenings.

**ALLIED CRUISERS AT SOUTH AMERICA**

Passes Are Brief—Newcastle Being Provisioned.

CALLAO, Peru, Dec. 23.—The Japanese armored cruiser Azuma, which entered this port yesterday morning, after her companion ship, the Izuma, passed out, sailed again last night.

VALPARAISO, Dec. 23.—The British cruiser Newcastle arrived here today, and is taking on coal and provisions.

**SAYS AUSTRIANS HAVE SOUGHT PEACE**

Correspondent Claims They Have Twice Been Refused by Servians.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—2:45 a.m.—The Daily Telegraph's Athens correspondent in a dispatch claims that he is able to confirm a statement he makes that Austria twice has attempted to make a separate peace with Servia, once by direct proposals to the Roumanian Government.

Servia's reply in both cases was an emphatic refusal, he says.

**AUSTRIAN EMPEROR REPORTED NEAR DEATH**

Rome Hears He Has Received the Last Sacraments.

ROME, Dec. 23.—4:50 p.m.—A rumor is in circulation here that Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary is dying. The report has it that the Emperor-King has received the last sacraments.

"Owing to the general mobilization of the colors," he said, "callings to the colors Turkish subjects will belong to the 1890, 1891, 1892 and 1893 classes of the active army and those of the reserve army must communicate with this office, so it may be learned what condition they may obtain on examination from the call."

**ROBT. LORRAINE WOUNDED.**

[Canadian Press.]

LONDON, Dec. 24.—2:39 a.m.—Robert Lorraine, the actor, who recently was wounded by a shrapnel bullet while serving with the British forces on the continent has returned to England to convalesce. He says he expects to go back to the front in two months with the fastest aeroplane ever built in England.

**OFFER FOR SCROGGIE STOCK.**

MONTREAL, Dec. 23.—The liquidator in charge of the insolvent concern of Scroggies, Limited, has received an offer from Mrs. E. S. Amy and Henry Wolf of Salem, Mass., to buy out the business, on a basis of 25 cents on the dollar, based on the actual cost price of the \$500,000 worth of stock at present figuring among the assets of the liquidation. 32c.

**MONTREALER KILLED IN WAR.**

MONTREAL, Dec. 23.—Francis Carbonnier, a French reservist, and former chauffeur to Deputy Chief St. Pierre, of the Montreal fire department, has been killed in action in France.