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The Toronto World

FRIDAY MORNING DECEMBER 31 1915

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VOL. XXXV.—No. 12,833

AUSTRIA AGAIN DEFEATS THE ALLIED STATES ENEMY WITHDRAWS FROM MACEDONIA CONSCRIPTION BILL IN TWO WEEKS

NO DISAVOWAL BY AUSTRIA OF ATTACK MADE ON ANCONA

Note to United States Says Submarine Commander Was Punished for Subsequent Conduct, However—Indemnity Offered for Loss of American Lives.

LONDON, Dec. 31, 4 a.m.—The Austrian reply to the second American note on the Ancona states that the commander of the Austrian submarine had been punished for not sufficiently taking account of the panic aboard the Ancona, which rendered disembarkation more difficult. The Austrian note, while announcing the willingness of the Austro-Hungarian Government to pay an indemnity for the American victims of the Ancona, declares that the government "cannot admit responsibility for damage caused by the justifiable firing on the fleeing vessel, or by the capsizing of the boats before the torpedo was fired."

Premises Indemnity. The Austrian reply expresses the hope that Washington will be able to supply the particulars of how the American citizens were affected, but in the event of such evidence being lacking and the United States being unwilling to state how the American citizens came to their death, the Austro-Hungarian Government is ready to pay indemnity for damages, whose proximate cause was fixed, and hopes thereby that the incident will be regarded as ended.

The reply of the Austrian Government to the second American note on the sinking of the steamship Ancona, with the loss of American lives, in favour of Reuters' Telegram Company from Vienna by way of Amsterdam. The note says: Austria's Reply. In reply to the second American note, the Austro-Hungarian Government fully agrees with the Washington Cabinet that the sacred laws of humanity should be taken into account also in war, and emphasizes that it, in the course of this war, has given numerous proofs of the most humane feelings.

The Austro-Hungarian Government, too, can positively concur in the principle that enemy private vessels so far as they do not flee or offer resistance, shall not be destroyed before the persons aboard are secured.

Desire Cordial Relations. The assurance that the United States Government attaches value to the maintenance of the existing good relations between Austria-Hungary and the United States is warmly recognized by the Austro-Hungarian Government, which now, as heretofore, is anxious to render these relations still more cordial.

The Austro-Hungarian Government thus communicates the results of the enquiry into the sinking of the Ancona, which was recently concluded. The enquiry showed that the commander of the submarine, from a great distance in the first instance, fired a warning shot on the steamer, sighted at 11:40 in the forenoon, which he believed to be a transport steamer, and at the same time giving a signal for the vessel to stop. As the steamer failed to stop and tried to escape, the submarine gave chase and fired shells at the steamer, of which three were observed to hit. The steamer stopped after the third hit, whereupon the commander ceased firing.

Already during the flight, it is declared, when at full speed, the steamer dropped several times overboard, and people, which at once capsized. After the steamer stopped the commander of the submarine observed that six boats were fully manned and ready to be rowed away from the steamer.

Commander's Explanation. Approvingly, the commander of the submarine, who made a great panic prevailed aboard the steamer, and that he had before him the passenger vessel Ancona, on account of which he gave those aboard more time than was necessary to leave the vessel in lifeboats. At least ten lifeboats were still aboard, which would have more than sufficed to rescue the persons still on the vessel, but as no other preparations were made to hoist out the boats, the commander decided, after the expiration of forty-five minutes, to torpedo the vessel in such a manner that it ought to remain afloat for a still longer time, in order to leave sufficient opportunity for the people still aboard to be rescued.

Steamer's Crew Blamed. Shortly afterwards a steamer became visible, which steamed toward the submarine. As the commander of the submarine, who believed the steamer to be an enemy cruiser, had to reckon with an attack, he submerged at 12:25, firing a torpedo into the foremost cargo hold of the Ancona. No more boats aboard the vessel were lowered, although persons were still visible.

The steamer sank so slowly that the submarine commander at first doubted whether the steamer would sink. Only at 1:20 o'clock did it sink, bow first.

During these further forty-five minutes it is asserted, all the persons aboard could have easily been rescued with the available boats. From the circumstance that this did not take place, the commander concluded that the crew, contrary to all the rules of

war, had not taken any precautions for the rescue of the crew.

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war, had not taken any precautions for the rescue of the crew.

Sir Adam Beck Gives Assurance

Sir Adam Beck has forwarded the following letter: To His Worship The Mayor, City of Toronto: Sir.—Owing to the fact that some of the opponents of the hydro-electric radial railway bylaw and agreement take exception to clause 2 (e) of the agreement and claim that it gives the commission the right to occupy the streets of the City of Toronto and in confirmation of my statement made to the city council when the bylaw was being considered that no such right was contemplated and in order to make the matter quite clear, I hereby undertake that if requested by the City of Toronto or any other municipality named in the agreement, I will make application to the legislature at its next session for an amendment to the Hydro-Electric Railway Act by inserting a clause that will make it quite clear that none of the streets of the City of Toronto or any other municipality shall be used or interfered with other than those named in the schedule attached to the agreement.

Yours truly, Adam Beck, Toronto, Dec. 30, 1915.

QUEEN'S PARK IS APATHETIC ON THE BYLAW

Sir Adam Beck Does Not Think Government Wants the Radials. MAGUIRE IS SURPRISED Expected to See Local Members Lined Up for the Bylaw.

Every one of the dozen hydro radial meetings Sir Adam Beck has yet addressed has risen to its feet in unanimous approval of the hydro radial scheme. And the meeting at Loew's Theatre last night followed the same course; somebody called for three cheers for Sir Adam and the crowd gave it with a will.

The opposition had a poor conception of the intelligence of the people of Toronto when they put up such lame arguments against the scheme, Sir Adam told the meeting. "It is a lame claim that cannot claim a single newspaper in the municipality to support its case," he said.

Sir Adam's address was much the same as at previous meetings, where he took up every argument advanced by the board of trade and proved its fallacy. "For whatever work I may have done on the hydro power movement I desire no reward," he told them.

"Neither will I for whatever success accrues to this hydro radial scheme. The only thing I ask for is the retention of the confidence of my fellow-citizens. This is your chance to get away from the interests. And I want to tell you they are waiting now if this project is defeated to launch a similar radial scheme throughout Ontario. No one is trying to put me over on you, as you are informed. This is your own undertaking and you wouldn't be likely to put one over on yourselves."

Plenty of Lawyers. Sir Adam created amusement when he told his audience that the board of

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3).

FOE'S CONSULS ARRESTED BY FRENCH AT SALONIKI General Serrail Has Them and Families Aboard French Warship.

LONDON, Dec. 31, 3:45 a.m.—A despatch to "The Times" from Saloniki says: The consuls of Germany, Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria, with their staffs and families, have been arrested by the French (General Serrail and his staff) at Saloniki, with a view to their removal to a French warship.

The consulates are now occupied by allied troops.

MUST YIELD GOLD TO GERMAN BANKS

Yellow Metal to Come Out of Safe Deposit Vaults. BERLIN, via London, Dec. 30, 9:45 p.m.—At a meeting of the Reichsbank central committee today, Rudolf Havenstein, president of the bank, discussed the most recent measure to increase the gold stock of the institution by having the general credit banks compel customers to withdraw hoarded gold from lock boxes in safe deposit vaults.

Herr Havenstein said the measure promised gratifying results and that the daily deposits of gold in the Reichsbank for a whole week had been as great as previously. Referring to the large increase in the note circulation of the bank, Herr Havenstein said this was due to the heavy currency demands in foreign regions occupied by the German armies.

Assays of which five were made, run \$180 to \$1900 a ton. Traces of the precious metal have been picked up by prospectors at more than one spot in Munro, but this is the first time it has been assayed and found to run into high paying quantities. The whole district has platinum fever, and the country, which was restaked solid last August for gold, will be prospected for the more valuable metal at once now that samples are being passed around in a very exclusive set, and miners know what to look for.

War Advances Price. Gold is worth \$20.87 a Troy ounce, platinum \$75 an ounce, or about \$900 a pound. Platinum's production has been practically limited to the Urals.

Germany's Mines and stoppage of work there because of the war has advanced the price from its former of \$45 an ounce to \$100. Canada has produced some from the Yukon, and the Cariboo district, British Columbia, a little has been recovered from the last ten years. The Dominion's discovery has not been totalled more than \$10,000. If Munro Township is found to contain deposits of any value, Ontario's mineral resources will be added to immensely. The few men in the know portend since "Foran's" discovery and that it may outrival the famous Leyson-Dobie mine in richness. The World was asked to report the phenomenon ore at the Leyson-Dobie, Creosote mine, where it is stated on authority, \$2,500,000 of ore has already been discovered, and the comparatively small staff working there.

On Quinn Claims. The platinum was located on the northwest corner of what are known as the Quinn claims, and which are owned in one-third interests by George Quinn, Archie Quinn and F. S. Hart, the latter bought his interest some time ago for \$500. Miners working under Jack Oberkirch's direction, at the end of November, he brought out samples, his curiosity being aroused by the fact that the mineral panned like gold. A Hallelujah assayer made special tests with the results that are just now being made public. The samples assayed were taken from depths of 100 feet apart, but the owners are not aware if it is one continuous reef. Burton says the ore is not in a lead apparently but in splashy deposits, which are scattered in the manner of payable mica. Iron is the most noticeable constituent of the deposits, which are contained in a very hard granitoid.

The find in Munro Township is 10 miles east of Matheson and 420 miles north of Toronto.

Development work is to be gone on with within a week to determine the extent of the ore. The mere finding of platinum in paying quantities is most spectacular mineral development in Ontario for some years.

It's the People's Turn! One of the greatest issues ever presented to the people of Ontario will be voted on tomorrow in London and Toronto, and on Monday in many other municipalities, namely: Shall Ontario embark on hydro radials owned and run for and by the people on the principles and methods of hydro power.

The World has no fear as to how the people will vote. We believe it will be carried by sweeping majorities all along the line.

The Canadian Pacific is free to go into the radial and power business if it desires to; it is an affront to the people who treated that concern so generously to have it turn on its creator and say "We're going to use and every thing we can to defeat your bylaws and to keep you out of business." "We're the boss on the job!" "Keep off our preserves."

The answer to this affront will be given in Toronto tomorrow night. The council of the Board of Trade will also decide whether what it thinks the public think likewise.

Tonight's Hydro Meetings. The last chance to hear the hydro radial bylaw publicly discussed will be given the people tonight at the following places: Bonar Lecture Hall, Lansdowne avenue and College street, and Midway Classic Hall, Greenwood avenue and Gerrard street. Meetings commence at 8 p.m. sharp.

ANOTHER NORWEGIAN SHIP SUNK BY MINE

LONDON, Dec. 30, 8:57 p.m.—The Norwegian steamer "Risa," of 1912 tons, from Charleston for Copenhagen, with a cargo of oil, has been sunk by a mine. The crew was saved.

HIGH PLATINUM FIND IS MADE IN NORTHLAND

Important Discovery Announced From Burton-Quinn-Hairston Claims. VALUES STARTLING Some Samples Assay as High as Eighteen Hundred Dollars Per Ton.

MATHESON, Dec. 30.—Native platinum in paying quantities has been found on the Burton-Quinn-Hairston claims in Munro Township at a spot one mile east of the Leyson-Dobie mine, where the richest gold ore in Canada is being mined.

Assays of which five were made, run \$180 to \$1900 a ton. Traces of the precious metal have been picked up by prospectors at more than one spot in Munro, but this is the first time it has been assayed and found to run into high paying quantities. The whole district has platinum fever, and the country, which was restaked solid last August for gold, will be prospected for the more valuable metal at once now that samples are being passed around in a very exclusive set, and miners know what to look for.

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BRITISH AND FRENCH EFFECT NEW LANDINGS IN NEAR EAST

ELECTION RETURNS The best place in Toronto to see election returns on Saturday night will be in front of The World building. As fast as the figures are compiled they will be thrown on a sheet opposite The World building.

In addition to the election returns, the best motion pictures available will be shown, together with scenes from the battle line in France and pictures of the British navy.

The Sunday World will be issued at the usual time on Saturday night and complete returns will be published in the regular editions. The election figures this year, as in the past several years, are being compiled by the Ellis Adding-Typewriter, and it is hoped that the returns will be complete at an early hour in the evening. 56

TWO BRITISH AERIAL RAIDS ON STATION AND AERODROME

Comines Depot Bombed, With Lines and Sheds --One British Machine Defeats Four of Germans', Driving Them Off.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—(11:08 p.m.)—The British official statement on the campaign in the western zone, issued tonight, reads as follows: "Yesterday sixteen of our aeroplanes bombed the Comines station and hit the heavily the aerodrome and did considerable damage. In both cases all the machines returned safely.

During the day there were twelve encounters with hostile aeroplanes. One of our machines engaged four of the enemy's, one of which is believed to have been brought down. Another was damaged, and all four were driven off. One of our aeroplanes was brought down as the result of a combat with two German fighters.

"During the night the enemy heavily shelled our trenches south of Fricourt. A few Germans entered one of our front trenches, but were immediately driven out.

The weather has been fine. Our artillery has been active at several places on the front. North of Ypres there has been activity on both sides."

THE "ECONOMY" OF FOSTER

It is of very great importance that a good board of control should be elected this year. The big thing which the board did last year, instigated almost entirely by Controller Thompson, was the honest facing of the tax situation and the levying of a rate which would catch up the arrears generated practically altogether by the policy of Controller Foster. That "gentleman," as he describes himself in his nomination paper, naturally opposed any raising of the proper taxes of the city. The parting with cash is a sad moment for him.

It is interesting to observe that the lady once came in to buy a pound of steak. It was in the days before cold storage and steak was abundant. She asked for a pound, but when the pound was out of the price was announced at eleven cents. The lady had only ten cents. This "gentleman" is equal to the occasion. He cut off a cent's worth of meat.

This is the policy of sound administration which lets taxes accumulate for years until the inevitable settling day comes. The people all complain about the high tax rate, but they often fail to see who created the high rate. It was Controller Foster who laid taxation more than any other in the past ten years.

But he is never late with his own collections. When the live stock show was put on he undertook to do certain things for it. Of course he did none of them. He put up a guarantee, and he was the first man down at the box office, when the entrance money came in, to get back his deposit.

He has recently come out as an authority on the employment of labor. He has never been known to employ labor, but it is said he is willing to adopt it. However he has bloomed out as an employer of labor this week, and has several "sandwich" men going around the city on his behalf. It is cold weather, and this is not skilled labor. Perhaps Controller Foster has the same regard for sandwich men as for the soldiers. They have to die anyway, he says about the men in the trenches. He did not get any gloves for the sandwich men at any rate.

If there is any bad blunder in the city records it is pretty certain that Controller Foster has been on the wrong side of the record. Probably the Morley avenue sewerage works is one of the most notorious failures of the city in recent years. It is unlikely that the plant would have been in Morley's day, had Controller Foster not then been an alderman. He managed to sell half the property to the city at that time on which the plant stands. It is a sweet memorial to his name. It would not be necessary to recall these things but for the need for a good city council. Controller Foster is always out for himself, while a really public-spirited controller would be lending to the city's and the people's interests.

Any good official is always under Controller Foster's curse. He "hates it in" for Dr. Hastings because the medical health officer compelled him to make his slum houses fit to live in. Controller Foster says that the hydro radials will drive away slums. Believe

British Troops Are at Port Sixty Miles East of Saloniki, and French Land on Island Near Adalia--Enemy Withdraws From Macedonia?

LONDON, Dec. 30, 10:12 p.m.—Two new landings by the allies in the near east are reported today. The British have transferred some troops from Saloniki to Orfano, a small Greek port sixty miles east of Saloniki, with the intention of checking any possibility of a hostile advance from this quarter. The second landing was made by the French on the Greek island of Casteloro, off the southeast coast of Asia Minor, north of the important seaport of Adalia.

An Athens despatch says that the occupation of Adalia is the object of the landing. A railway runs north of Adalia, and the presence there of a strong allied force would menace communications of any hostile force operating against Egypt or the lower Tigris region.

These movements indicate that the allied positions around Saloniki are now considered secure, and indications are that the campaign around Saloniki will develop into a "long drawn warfare" as on other fronts.

Enemy Withdraws? Rome reports that the central powers have begun a general withdrawal from the serious Macedonian front, owing to the Russian campaign in Bessarabia, but this lacks confirmation. In the entire situation, however, there is a general opinion that the Russian campaign in Bessarabia, which has been undertaken in the face of unfavorable weather conditions, is likely to have an important bearing on the whole "east" situation.

According to one version, Russia's new move is the forerunner of the impending Roumanian entry into the war on the side of the allies. The Mail Gazette's Russian correspondent writes:

Roumanian Aspirations. "Russian joint operations with Roumania are on the point of beginning. Roumania will fight, although not for us. Her siding with the allies is not the result of French or English sympathies, but an endeavor to realize the Roumanian dream of sovereignty over Bukovina and Transylvania. As preparation for Roumanian's entry into the war, Roumania's aim is to reconquer Bukovina for the benefit of her new ally. This may be accomplished in a few weeks."

"The Roumanians will then force the new province and march with the Russian army on other fronts. In Transylvania, while simultaneously the Italians, French, British and Serbians will lead blows on other fronts."

A Geneva despatch says it is reported on good authority that Italian troops have occupied the Albanian coast of Durazzo.

This report apparently is corroborated by the fact that the German coast at Durazzo, the members of the staff and fifty other German passengers from Bellinzona, Switzerland, yesterday on their way to Berlin.

Durazzo is an Avlona are the principal Albanian ports. Avlona was occupied by the Italians several months ago, before Italy entered the war.

Durazzo is on a peninsula in the Adriatic Sea, forty miles south of Montenegro border. There have been previous reports of Italian activity there, principally in connection with the landing of supplies for the Serbian army.

VICTORIOUS SQUADRON RETURNED UNDAUNTED

Triumph of Italian and Allied Ships off Durazzo Was Unmarred.

ROME, Dec. 30, via London, 2:06 p.m.—The following official communication was issued today: "Yesterday morning an enemy squadron of six destroyers appeared off Durazzo in order to bombard the place. They did insignificant damage and were attacked by Italian and allied ships cruising in the neighborhood. The Austrian torpedo boat destroyers Triglav and Liha were sunk. Survivors from the Liha were taken prisoners.

"An enemy aeroplane was shot down by one of our destroyers. "All of our ships returned to port undamaged."

The above statement adds details to a statement issued by the French ministry of marine yesterday.

FRENCH DROP BOMBS ON CAMP AT PATRIK

PARIS, Dec. 30.—Tonight's official statement on Balkan operations says: "Dec. 29 our aeroplanes bombed the camps and encampments of the Bulgarians at Patrik, east of Lake Doiran. There is nothing to report on this side of the Greek-frontier."