

The Herald

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1918

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR. TO THE UNITED STATES \$1.50 PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY THE "HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED" AT 81 QUEEN STREET CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND.

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A League of Liberation.

In the relation it is likely to bear to the successful prosecution and victorious termination of the world war nothing that has occurred during the past year equals in importance the great conference of the Entente Allies recently held in Paris, the proceedings of which are now being reported to Washington. At that conference the United States representatives met with the foremost men of the British Empire, France, Italy and the other Entente powers, went exhaustively into all phases of the war and agreed upon the part each and all shall play in the prosecution of the struggle against the Hun.

The outstanding feature of the proceedings of the conference was the complete agreement between all the powers as to the share each shall take as factors in a mighty war machine, with all its parts moving in harmony and dedicated to the complete triumph of the allied cause. Under the sub-divisions of naval, military, diplomatic, financial, shipping and war trade, the problems of the war were dealt with and solved, and as a result of the understandings reached, Germany, during the year 1918, will face the most powerful combination the world has ever known.

The United States has undertaken to rush trained men to the firing lines in greatest possible numbers and with the utmost speed. The other allies will do the same and all will work together to the end that the mightiest army the war has seen will be in readiness for action when the spring months open. The equipment of this army will be undertaken jointly, the United States obtaining, in that regard, the benefit of the great resources and vast war experience of Great Britain and France. Military resources of all the Allies will be pooled for the advantage of all.

There will also be complete co-operation between the British Admiralty and the United States naval department, and the two nations will jointly incept a campaign for the suppression of enemy submarine activities. All naval operations will be under the control of an inter-allied naval council composed of representatives of all the Entente Powers.

The United States will throw the great strength of her financial resources into the scale and Great Britain has reached an agreement as to the financing of the war. Similar agreements guaranteeing co-operation have been made in regard to diplomatic, shipping and trade phases of the campaign. In the settlements of the war the United States will have an equal voice; in shipping arrangements the resources of the Entente have been pooled, and every effort will be made to assure the utmost efficiency of effort; in war trade, the Allies will share according to their ability to produce the articles required.

In short, the United States has been admitted to a full membership in the League of Liberation assume its part on the responsibilities, and will share in all privileges and benefits arising from the suppression of Prussianism. It is a mighty combination against which the hosts of the Kaiser cannot prevail.

There is still much fighting to be done in France, in Flanders in Germany and on the high seas, but the result is assured. Germany may postpone defeat for a time, but when the full force of the newest war machine becomes effective hostilities may be expected to terminate soon thereafter. And the nature of that termination will be entirely satisfactory to the League of Liberation in particular and to the world in general.

L'Evenement, a most courageous and straightforward French journal published in the Province of Quebec has the honesty and the nerve to place the blame for the Quebec situation where it belongs. It rebukes the Laurier-Bourassa newspapers for attributing the isolation of Quebec to the English-speaking Provinces. It points out that without question the whole responsibility rests with the Liberal-Nationalist leaders and their press. It shows that they organized the campaign of terror which prevailed throughout the Province for several weeks preceding polling day. It shows how Laurier's mobs broke up Unionist meetings, assaulted Unionist candidates, and abolished free speech in 65 constituencies. L'Evenement adds: "They knew well the harm which such disgusting conduct was doing our race throughout the world, and they knew that the French-Canadian name was being dragged in the dirt by several crazy ruffians, but what difference when this was doing good work for the Rouge party in the Province? These men, then, who did their best to stifle public discussion and to dishonor the French-Canadian name, now come and accuse the English of saying disagreeable things of the Province of Quebec. What a lot of hypocrites, for they know that they are the cause of the campaign of hatred directed against us by all of the Allied countries."

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Annual Meeting CENTRAL FARMERS' INSTITUTE In Prince of Wales College Hall, Charlottetown January 16 and 17.

Commencing at 11 a. m. Public Meeting on the evening of the 16th, commencing at 7.30 o'clock. Delegates names to be in Secretary's hands as soon as possible. Those attending are requested to buy tickets on the Standard Certificate Plan—good from Tuesday till Friday. THEO. ROSS, Pres. J. H. GILL, Secy. Ch'town, Jan. 2, 1918 21

Progress of the War

London, Jan. 1.—The following official communication dealing with the operations of the British forces on the Italian front was issued tonight: "The British commander-in-chief in Italy reports that the Italians at the end of the year remain in possession of their defensive lines on the Monte Grappa and Asiago sectors which they have worked untiringly to strengthen. Little snow has fallen. The success of the French yesterday in the Mont Tomba region has given much satisfaction. "Some small raids have been successfully made across the Piave River by the British. The crossing of the river is difficult at this season of the year. British artillery and aircraft continue their efforts daily to destroy the enemy's batteries. "In retaliation for December 26, when they lost eleven machines, the enemy aircraft has been active in bombing raids. The damage thus inflicted has been slight. "All the Allied troops are confident of future success of their united efforts and look forward to the new year."

Rome, Dec. 31.—In the Mont Tomba region on the northern front the French have captured enemy positions between Osteria Di Monferena and Marenzine, the war office announced. They also captured about 1,400 men and 60 machine guns and seven cannons.

French Army Headquarters in Italy, Monday, Dec. 31.—(By the Associated Press)—The attack of French troops in the Mont Tomba region was executed by three battalions of picked men. The artillery preparation, which was intense, lasted for hours, and then at 4.15 o'clock the French made a brilliant impetuous charge. The struggle was heaviest on the French right wing. The attacking troops swept forward steadily until the enemy trenches were reached, a great number of their occupants being captured. The success of this first important movement by Italy's allies arouses the keenest satisfaction, and is a notable tribute to the dash and steadiness of the French forces.

Another reverse for the Teutonic allied arms, following that effected by the French troops in their initial drive on the northern front in Italy, has been brought by the Italians in a sharp attack in the famous Zenson loop, on the lower reaches of the Piave River. Here the enemy has been driven to the eastern bank of the stream from positions he had held since the Italians in their retrograde movement from the Isonzo made their stand along the western shore of the Piave. Thus the entire right bank of the Piave has been cleared of the invaders, except far to the north, where the battle line runs westward from the strait through the hill region. The fighting for the Zenson bridgehead had been in progress since last Thursday, the Italians keeping energetically at the foe in order to regain the position, which always has been considered a menace to Venice. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy by the artillery and rifle fire of the Italians before he was forced to recross the stream.

On the northern front the infantry again is idle for the moment but the big guns of both sides are keeping up intensive duels on various sectors, particularly around Monte Tomba and on the Asiago Plateau. The enemy is continuing his air raids over important towns on the plain his latest attack having been directed against Vicenza, Bassano, Costaferrato and Treviso. Thirty-two persons were killed and forty-four others wounded, the majority of them civilians. "Only small material damage resulted from the new raids. Likewise the operations on the fronts in France and Belgium are being confined almost exclusively to bombardments, although the German war office claims a further gain of ground by the army of Crown Prince Rupprecht over the British south of Marooning in the Cambrai sector.

There are persistent reports that heavy fighting is in progress between Kaledines Cossacks and

Bolshevik troops in southwestern Russia, and that the casualties have been heavy. No details of any authentic nature have yet come through, but the reports say the Bolsheviks have been defeated on the southwestern front with numerous losses of men and guns, but that the Bolsheviks have occupied the important town of Poltava. Still further progress has been made by the British troops operating against the Turks in Palestine, north of Jerusalem. The Turks in the fighting of the past several days have lost more than a thousand men killed and 150 men made prisoners.

London, Jan. 2.—The probability of the Germans now taking a vigorous offensive attitude on the western front was pointed out by Major General F. E. Maurice, chief director of military preparations at the war office, in his weekly talk to The Associated Press today. "There were two factors that contributed to this probability, the general said, the first being the steady flow of German reinforcements from the eastern front and the second, the fact that the American forces were not yet ready to take any considerable part in the operations. The public should be prepared, General Maurice said, for some losses of both ground and men if the Germans attempt really determined offensive operations. They would not, however, be able to inflict any such losses on the Allies as the latter had inflicted on the Germans during the past year, he declared.

"The enemy in the past fortnight has been attempting numerous raids, mostly on a small scale," began General Maurice, "at Cambrai, however, he tried a larger operation with the object of getting control of a ridge on the British flank whence he hoped he could strangle the supplies to a British salient and force its withdrawal. His attack, however, ended in an almost complete failure, for although he gained a few hundred yards of front trenches, he failed to set foot on the ridge anywhere. "These attempts to take the offensive," continued the General, "are a sign of a new distribution of the belligerent forces on the western front. The enemy is steadily bringing troops from Russia with the aim of re-establishing his superiority over the Anglo-French forces. The Germans do not possess a magic carpet and cannot transfer troops at a supernatural rate, especially under winter transport conditions. Nevertheless there is a steady flow of German troops westward.

"The Germans are still a long way from having any superior numbers on this front, but the relative strength of the forces is already so altered that it is doubtful whether the allied commander would feel justified in undertaking offensive operations on a large scale. The enemy's constantly improving numerical position will on the other hand, lead inevitably to offensive operations by the Germans, but I see no reason to believe that he will be able to inflict anything like such losses on us as we inflicted on him during the past year. "Owing to our work of the past year we are in an excellent defensive position, holding practically all the high ground. On the other hand we are everywhere on new ground where we must prepare new defensive systems. We must be prepared to lose ground and if the enemy makes a determined attack with the usual artillery preparation followed by energetic infantry assaults, for our own experience has taught us that it is practically always possible to move a certain distance under these conditions of attack."

Regarding the situation in Palestine, General Maurice said: "A word of caution is necessary relative to the hopes of an immediate further advance in Palestine. The hills of Judea are notoriously difficult, the weather is unfavorable and the roads impossible owing to the wet season. The transport problem therefore, is likely to prevent any considerable movement there for some time."

The recuperation and repair of worn and damaged articles began in the spring of 1916, in vast warehouses and repair shops in which 5,000 persons, including 20,000 refugees, mostly women are employed. Here and at Les Marais, northwest of Orleans, among the quays from which the mobilized men of the 5th military region went off to war in August, 1914, German prisoners of war now line up in front of incoming freight trains and unload quantities of great sacks that look like the product of a gigantic ragman's shop. The indescribable mass invokes the confusion as well as the tragedy of the battlefield. There are pierced and dented helmets, worn and stained pieces of uniform, forage caps, great coats, leggings, army shoes and trench boots, some of them pierced by bullets, some torn by shrapnel and others shredded by violent contact with barbed wire. All of them are covered with layers of mud of varying thicknesses and not infrequently a garment presents a stain of indelible color, always easily recognized but gotten rid of with difficulty. These garments receive special treatment. They are first thrown into a receptacle where they go through a long and thorough cleansing before being treated as other garments. The first operation on the arrival of a train is the sorting of the load into three piles, leather, metal and cloth. The cloth and canvas go at once into immense disinfecting tanks that are in operation night and day, and from there to the laundry. Then they go to another warehouse where they are separated in repairable and unrepairable.

The virtual collapse of the negotiations between the Central Powers and the Russian Bolsheviks for peace and the possibility that hostilities again may be resumed by the Russians on the eastern front, even though with only a comparative small army, have caused surprise and perturbation in Berlin and Vienna. Realizing the seriousness of the situation the German and Austrian Emperors have conferred at length with their chiefs of state and the German and Austro-Hungarian foreign ministers, who were attending the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk, have been sent back their post haste, probably for the purpose of attempting to moderate the situation. Not alone Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister and other leaders of the counter-revolution in Russia utterly dissatisfied with the terms of the peace proposals of the Central Powers, but the heads of the German Socialist factions also have valuably expressed their antagonism to those sections of them which call for the retention of Poland, Lithuania, Courland and other territory now in possession of the invaders.

Trotsky, as the mouthpiece of the Bolsheviks, has announced in unmistakable terms that the Russian workers will not accept the peace proposals which he terms "hypocritical." He asserted that if the Central Powers did not agree to the free destiny of the Polish and Lithuanian nations would be urgently necessary to defend the Russian revolution. The central committee of counsel of workers' and soldiers' delegates in a resolution approved Trotsky's stand. Apparently adding to the

(Continued on page 3)

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Legislative Assembly Prince Edward Island

Rules Relating to Private Bills

36. All petitions for Private Bills must be presented within fourteen days after the commencement of the session, exclusive of adjournment. 37. No Private Bill shall be brought into the House but upon a petition first presented, truly stating the case at the peril of the suitors for such Bill, and such petition must be signed by the said parties. 38. A committee shall be appointed at the commencement of every session consisting of five members, of whom three shall be a quorum, to be designated "The Private Bill Committee", to whom shall be referred every Private Bill, and on proceedings after the first reading shall be held upon such Bill until such a committee has reported thereon to the House. 39. So soon as the Committee has reported any Bill, such Bill, together with any amendments that may be suggested by the Committee, shall be printed at the expense of the parties who are suitors for such Bill, and printed copies thereof delivered to the members before the second reading if deemed necessary by the Committee. 40. No Bill for the particular interests of any person or persons, Corporation or Corporations, or body or bodies of people, shall be read a second time until all fees be paid for the same into the hands of the Clerk of the House. 41. No Bill having for its object the vesting in or conferring upon any person or persons, Municipality or Body Corporate the title to any tract of land shall be received or read in the House unless at least four weeks' notice containing a full description of the land in question has been published in the "Royal Gazette" and one other newspaper in this Province of the intention of such person or persons, Municipality or Body Corporate to apply for such Bill.

H. E. DAWSON, Clerk Legislative Assembly November 28, 1917-18

Notice to Debtors

All old Accounts, of which payment has already been demanded by newspaper advertisement, will now be collected without further notice. D. E. MORRIS, M. D. Dundas, Dec. 26, 1917-41. A. McLean, K. C. 155-157 Front St. W. McLean & McKinnon Barristers, Attorneys-at-Law Charlottetown, P. E. Island