

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XV., No. 83.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1918

TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

Wilson in Important Conferences Today With British Statesmen

He and Lloyd George and Balfour Meet

A TALK BEFORE GRATE FIRE

Big Subjects Discussed With no Secretaries in Attendance and Satisfactory Progress Believed Made—King and Queen, President and Wife at Table by Themselves

London, Dec. 27—President Wilson's conferences today with British statesmen are described in American quarters as having been very satisfactory. The president spent more than three hours before Premier Lloyd George's luncheon in most intimate discussion with the premier and Foreign Secretary Balfour at Buckingham Palace, going over the general aspects of the fourteen points of his peace program.

No one particular phase was taken up, but the discussion was a general one. No official announcements were made as to results of the conference, and afterwards the president continued the discussions with the British statesmen at the luncheon in Downing street and later returned them at Buckingham Palace.

It was learned that a great deal of progress was made in making clear some phases of the president's points which are uppermost in the minds of the British, particularly as regards the question of British naval supremacy.

At the Open Gate. At Buckingham Palace before the luncheon President Wilson, the prime minister, and the foreign secretary met in one of the rooms of the president's suite before a cheerful fire. There were no secretaries or documents to lend any air of formality to the discussion. It was an entirely informal conference intended to develop the most intimate aspects of the situation.

The president did a great deal of the talking, and it was said afterwards that nothing developed to show that any substantial difference in principle or in fundamentals existed. None of the three subjects was discussed specifically or by itself, as they are considered inseparable in the final analysis, so the first purpose of the conference was to develop what may be the differences of opinion to the point where they can be clarified.

Conference With Lloyd George. London, Dec. 27—Premier Lloyd George, accompanied by Sir Maurice Hankey, secretary to the committee on imperial defence, and Sir Arthur Balfour, secretary of state for foreign affairs, walked over from the foreign office to attend the conference with President Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was astride early this morning and busy with his secretary. The Duke of Connaught and Sir Richard Herschel visited the palace before the arrival of Mr. Wilson. Arthur Balfour, secretary of state for foreign affairs, walked over from the foreign office to attend the conference with the president and Mr. Wilson.

The company invited to meet President Wilson for the luncheon arranged to be held today at Premier Lloyd George's residence comprised a small gathering of elder statesmen, the personal including the leaders in the last and the present government, and the heads of three of the political parties, Conservative, Liberal and Labor.

The luncheon gave occasion for the first visit by former President Aquilino to the premier's official residence since the Liberal leader resigned his office, and Viscount Morley, another of the party, retired from the Aquilino cabinet at the beginning of the war on account of his opposition to Great Britain's participation in the struggle. Viscount Grey, still another of those invited, has been living almost in retirement since he left the cabinet. He is one of the strongest advocates of a league of nations.

KING AND PRESIDENT IN PRIVATE TALK. Dinner at Buckingham Palace last night was a private function, covers being laid only for King George and Queen Mary and President and Mrs. Wilson. After dinner the president had a long talk alone with the king. The president is desirous of becoming personally acquainted with the chief personages in England before beginning his formal conversations. He had an earnest talk with Queen Mother Alexandra this afternoon when he called to leave cards at Marlborough House.

The president was greatly pleased with the warmth of his reception in London, which, in the opinion of his suite, exceeded even that of Paris.

Newspaper Welcome. London, Dec. 27—(By the Associated Press)—London's morning newspapers, having suspended publication since Tuesday for the Christmas holiday, had to find space today for three days' news from the world. Nevertheless, by far the largest part of every paper is given over to President Wilson's visit. Throughout the descriptive articles, as well as the editorial, gratification is expressed over Mr. Wilson's presence and the people's joyous welcome, which is declared to have been the warmest tribute to a distinguished visitor that London has ever known. There is a strain of sympathetic personal greeting running through all the stories.

(Continued on page 2, sixth column)



JOHN BULL: "Good heavens! Just as I thought I was going to have a bit of rest the others started."

Declares Ex-Czar Alive

That is Word Brought From Ukraine—Says One of Allied Governments Knows About It

Warsaw, Dec. 24—(By the Associated Press)—There is no doubt that the Czar and his entire family are alive. I am positive of this, says the declaration made to the correspondent today by Michael De Tchitchakoff, a nephew of General Skorpofski, and who has just escaped from the Ukraine after a recent trip to Petrograd, Dvinsk, Vilna and Kovno.

"I cannot reveal where the Czar is because he does not wish it," he added. "He does not care to be bothered and he wants to be left alone. His whereabouts is known to an Allied government. It is in a neutral country. Accounts of his murder at Ekaterinburg were manufactured by Trotsky and Lenin for propaganda purposes."

M. De Tchitchakoff said that the Allies should send an army of occupation into Russia to re-establish a stable government and business conditions. He said the Czar's family was being held in a place of safety, and that a pair of trousers 1,000 rubles, a pair of shoes 500 rubles, and a pair of shoes 500 rubles, were available at any price.

AMERICAN ADMIRAL'S TRIBUTE TO BEATTY

Speaks of Adventures of U. S. Fleet in the War Zone

New York, Dec. 27—The adventures of the American ocean fleet in attempting to halt the German ships to combat; how a U-boat had rammed his ship; and how every effort was made to lure the enemy from its base yesterday by Rear Admiral Hugh Rodman on the flagship New York. It was he who commanded the American battle division in the grand fleet under Sir David Beatty. In the words of the admiral, the submarine "ran amuck," and the ship's plating, smashed a propeller blade and undoubtedly was sent to the bottom at the next turn of the screws. He told also of the ignominious herding of the German fleets for surrender and the final acts of the American fleet after the enemy had been conquered.

The admiral said: "It is needless, in fact superfluous, for me to reiterate that which is known and recognized throughout the civilized world; namely, that the very backbone of which has been the made a victorious peace a certainty. Without it there is no question that the war long ago would have been disastrously concluded with just the reverse conditions obtaining from those which now exist."

"No mention can be made of the grand fleet without our thoughts naturally turning to its commander-in-chief, Admiral Sir David Beatty, a man of rare accomplishments, a natural born, tried, trusted and gallant leader. Under him our combined forces operated, just as later all of the Allied armies were placed under the direction or command of Marshal Foch."

PERCY OGILVIE OUT OF GERMAN HANDS

Miss Marion Dearborn of Princess street today received news that will interest many friends in St. John. It is that Percy Ogilvie, formerly of this city, who has been a prisoner in Germany since the outbreak of the war, has been released and has arrived in London. He probably will be coming home soon and will be in St. John on his way to Vancouver, where the family now resides. This young soldier enlisted in the 19th Battalion in Vancouver when he was only sixteen years old. He had seen much fighting and had been slightly wounded. In 1916 he was taken prisoner by the Germans and now is happily freed. The young soldier is a son of John Ogilvie, well remembered here.

FAMILY GETTING BETTER

Secretary T. M. Burns of the Board of Health, his assistant secretary, Miss Burns, and four other members of his household who have been ill of late with a mild attack of influenza, are recovering. Mrs. Burns fortunately has escaped the ailment and the family is thus privileged to enjoy the mother-care.

HINDENBURG NOT THE DOUGHTY WARRIOR THAT HE WAS PAINTED

They Find Out Now That He Spent Much of Time in Hiding Place

HIS ROYAL MASTER, TOO

Allies Find Refuge Places of General and Kaiser—Plan to Cover at First Sound of Danger—Crown Prince is Said, Gave up Much of His Time to Amusement

Spa, Belgium, Dec. 16—(Correspondent of the Associated Press)—The former headquarters of the Kaiser and his general staff in disclosing some extraordinary queer facts about the men who engineered the world war. Take Hindenburg, around whom reams of poetry have been written, depicting him as a fearless Napoleon leading his troops to victory. As a matter of fact, he spent a great deal of time in a wonderfully "constructed" "hiding place" or dugout, underneath the grounds of his villa here.

Spa, it may be noted, is almost on the German border and so far from where battles were fought that it was almost a day's journey in a fast motor car to get within sound of the big guns. The Kaiser, too, had a similar hiding place. At each of his villas there were delicate electrical instruments which would set off furious buzzing whenever an airplane approached anywhere near the villa. The Kaiser used to run to shelter, it is reported. People who worked about the Kaiser's establishment said that he was continually running for cover.

The United States representatives of the international aviation commission are now occupying Hindenburg's headquarters and they were amazed when they discovered this underground refuge of the Kaiser. The entrance was through the dining room. From there a flight of steps led down to a tiled anteroom, which by the way, now serves as a very good pantry for the Americans.

From the tiled room there was another flight of steps that led down to the dugout. This was hatched by a heavy iron door about one inch in thickness, which could be locked from the inside only. Within, it was fastened by a double bolt, which would do credit to an American banking establishment.

The dugout itself was luxuriously equipped. On the floor was a heavy carpet, and a Louis XV table and chairs added to the artistic arrangement. The walls, which were of corrugated iron, were painted white, and the whole place brilliantly illuminated by electricity. On a little table was an electric fan to keep the marshy cool in summer, while an electric stove provided heat in winter. The room was about 14 x 12 feet, and was protected by four to six feet of earth above it.

The emperor's dugout was similar, except that it was much deeper underground and there were two entrances, one through the villa and the other from the grounds. The main entrance was from the house and led down a long flight of steps.

Another touch to the picture was added today when a German resident of Aix-La-Chapelle told the correspondent of the Associated Press that Crown Prince spent virtually all of his time in amusement.

MOTHER DEAD FEW DAYS AFTER DAUGHTER

Mrs. Sarah Fanjoy of Fredericton Succumbs to Pneumonia—Newton Foster Also Passes Away

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 27—Mrs. Sarah Fanjoy, wife of James Fanjoy, of this city, died last night of pneumonia. She was aged sixty years. Her daughter, Mrs. Lee Cliffe, died on Christmas day of the same disease. Three brothers survive Mrs. Fanjoy—Wm. Boyd of Gladstone, Man., Jarvis Boyd of Gagetown, and Abner Boyd of Deer River, Minn.; also two sisters, Mrs. W. B. DeLong of Woodstock, and Mrs. Richard Young of Bayonne, N. J.

NEW PROBLEMS IN EAST

Paris, Dec. 27—New problems have arisen in the east, following Allied occupation of parts of Hungary, Turkey, Russia and Bulgaria. The French government has summoned General Louis Franchet d'Esperey, commander of Allied forces in Macedonia, to Paris for a conference, says Marcel Hutin, in the Echo de Paris.

REPORT KAISER ASSASSINATED; NO CONFIRMATION

There were 6,488 Tickets in the Jar

Almas M. Clarke and Jean Sullivan Win Capital Prizes in Imperial Contest

The Imperial Theatre closed its contest among the children yesterday, a contest in which the prizes were: mechanical toys, etc., and the competition was so keen that many tickets were left over in a glass jar.

It turned out that the jar held 6,488 tickets and the nearest guess was that of Almas M. Clarke of 251 King street east, who figured that there were 6,483 in the receptacle. He got a splendid electric train with traction system complete.

The other boy winners were: Neil McKellar, Jr., of West St. John; Donald Brown, 185 Carmarthen street; Charlie Swain, Carmarthen street; Robert Moffat, 64 Elliott row; Gordon Bone, 9 Harris street; Arthur Sheehan, 38 Cliff street; Perry King, 208 Queen street; West End; George Waring, Jr., 101 Queen street; West End; Arthur Wall, 22 1/2 Britain street; Ronald Barbour, 30 Pitt street.

The winning girls were: Jean Sullivan, 50 Coburg street, who won the capital prize, a manure set; Almas Bean, Brussels street; Olive Kirkpatrick, Robney; Helen Sullivan, 60 St. James street; Beatrice Ramsey, 90 St. James street; Louise Adams, 166 Waterloo street; Armine Crowley, 164 Waterloo street; Queens Daymont, Westmorland road; Edith Finley, 105 Thorne avenue; Joan Charlton, 188 Queen street; Mona Brown, 178 Sheffield street.

The prizes for boys were: electric train, machine gun, British tank, skates, hockey sticks and theatre tickets. The girls' prizes were manure set, toy piano, sewing machine, girls' own annual, skates, picture books and theatre tickets.

CITY PUBLIC WORKS

In preparing his plans for next year's work, Commissioner Fisher is looking forward to having three stone crushers at work. One of the old machines which had passed the stage of usefulness for city work has been disposed of but the other, which is not in condition for general work, will be set up at the South End yards where it will be sufficient for plants where it will be used for the west and north ends, and specifications have been prepared for them, one to be a larger machine than those in use in the past.

The stone crushing operations in West St. John are proving of double value. Not only is the stone being secured for street work but its removal is opening up a section of Lancaster street which has been impassable. An opening has been made through this street and before long it will be improved sufficiently to allow traffic to pass through. The next step will be to open communication with one of the intersecting streets.

The commissioner also hopes to have some new motor trucks for the use of his department. The five and three and a half ton truck now owned by the department are larger than are required to allow traffic to pass through. On favorable terms, he would replace them with lighter vehicles of a type which would be selected as standard equipment for the department.

REMEMBERED HIS OLD PAL

George Newcomb, son of William Newcomb of Torryburn, a former member of the Imperial Theatre staff, and now in Winnipeg, sent practical token of Christmas good-will and remembrance to his old associates in the theatre in the shape of boxes of cigars and tins of cigarettes. George likes the west and says he is getting along finely.

Independents May Control

Majority Socialists Are Likely to Quit

THE BERLIN SITUATION

Spartacus Faction Still Had Upper Hand Yesterday Afternoon—The Seizure of Vorwarts, Socialist Newspaper

Berlin, Dec. 26—(Midnight, by the Associated Press)—As a result of today's deliberations, it is believed in some quarters, the majority Socialists will retire from the cabinet and leave the independents in full control of the government.

Berlin, Dec. 26—(By the Associated Press)—The Spartacus faction late this afternoon was still in control of the offices of the Socialist newspaper Vorwarts, which were formerly taken possession of by members of the group on Wednesday night. Chief of Police Eichenhorn, however, had promised the editors of the newspaper that the invaders of the plant would be ejected by six o'clock this evening in order to make possible the publication of Friday's issue by the regular staff.

The seizure of the newspaper was suggested during the demonstration at the palace on Wednesday, when Dr. Karl Liebknecht and other radicals delivered speeches. There were cries of "On to the Vorwarts!" and the demonstrators followed the Red Guard to the printing plant, which was unoccupied, as the day was a holiday.

After the seizure, volunteer composers responded to a call for skilled men and several of these started the linotype machines. Spartacus writers provided copy for hand bills which were issued under the caption: Red Vorwarts. Meanwhile the Red Guards had posted sentries at the doors and windows to repel invaders. One of these sentries was an unkempt Spartacus carrying a rifle in one hand and an umbrella in the other.

The hand bills contained a report of the demonstration and explained the seizure of the newspaper, which was declared to be warranted "under the new law born with the revolution." Another item declared: "Vorwarts is the product of the blood and sweat of the German working-men." The newspaper was also referred to as a "lying dog" and "repulsive whose poisonous teeth are not about to be pulled."

The retirement of Premier Ebert and Herr Scheidemann and their intimate colleagues was also demanded.

Berlin, Dec. 25—(By the Associated Press)—An eleventh hour compromise with the revolting sailors by the Ebert-Scheidemann section of the government apparently saved Berlin from an extremist Christmas today. (Later reports from Berlin are that the Spartacus faction is still the cause of trouble.) The sailors gained more than they sought and will remain in Berlin as part of the republican soldiers guard.

The compromise provides that division of troops from the western front under Lieut-General Lequis, which was sent to Berlin by Field Marshal Von Hindenburg in response to an appeal by the government, will retire and leave the capital under the protection of the two volunteering police organizations which are dominated by the extremists. The sailors, against whom the soldiers have been antagonistic, are known to be unhappy because of the special leadership of Georg Ledebour, who was one of the negotiators yesterday with the Ebert-Hoese government.

The sailors agree not to participate in any future revolt against the government.

WANT BRITISH AND U. S. TROOPS

London, Dec. 27—"We shan't have peace here until British and American troops come to keep order," is a statement attributed to one of the riotous German sailors in Berlin by the correspondent of the Daily Express there.

The correspondent says he talked with a dozen others of the men who expressed themselves similarly to the first speaker, some of them adding, "don't let them send the French or there will be more fighting."

The correspondent adds that all the lower classes of Berlin are willing to see foreign troops in the capital, feeling that they have nothing to lose and perhaps something to gain by the presence of outsiders.

Richard Barth is quoted by the correspondent as saying that he and his fellow cabinet ministers, Hugo Haase and Wilhelm Dittman, would not accept the responsibility of ordering an attack on the sailors. The instructions for the attack, he added, were given by Premier Ebert, Philippe Scheidemann and Herr Landsberg. Barth said he intended to consult his colleagues and might leave the government immediately.

The correspondent considers one of the most disquieting factors of the situation the part played by the sailors' wives and sweethearts, some of whom participated in the fighting.

AT ST. DAVID'S. Soldiers and sailors were entertained last evening in St. David's church. A programme was carried out by Mr. T. W. Quartermaster-sergeant Home, Miss A. S. Pleshaw to Edward Hopey, property in St. Martins.

St. John Protestant Orphan Home to G. W. Speer, property in Spring street.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

Transfers of real estate have been recorded as follows:—

St. John County. Robert McConnell to Theresa Jacobson, property in Main street.

A. S. Pleshaw to Edward Hopey, property in St. Martins.

St. John Protestant Orphan Home to G. W. Speer, property in Spring street.

BRITISH WILL SINK ANY RED FLAG SHIPS

Amsterdam, Dec. 27—The British Admiralty is prepared to take drastic measures against the propagation of Bolshevism in that part of the German fleet remaining in German hands, according to Berlin despatches today. It is said that the sinking of vessels displaying the red flag and the execution of the crews infected with Bolshevism is threatened.

THE NAVAL QUESTION

It is Not Expected to Be Feature of Next Session at Ottawa

Montreal, Dec. 27—A special despatch to the Montreal Gazette from Ottawa says:—

The naval question is not expected to be a feature of the coming session of parliament. While the broad lines of it have already been adopted, as indicated by London cables, the fact that Viscount Jellicoe is to visit the dominions and advise them on the basis of what they have tentatively agreed to, and particularly the further fact that he will go to Australia and New Zealand first, are thought to indicate that he will reach Canada only towards spring. His report will have to be prepared afterwards, so that the session is very much pre-occupied, the naval programme is a subject of discussion.

With details to be worked out yet, it is apparent that a corps of dominion navies is what is now in prospect. That of Canada will be built and owned and maintained by Canada, but undoubtedly, it will work in close co-operation with the British navy, or be subjected to a general board representing the admiralty and all the dominions.

SIR ARTHUR CURRIE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Ottawa, Dec. 27—A cable from the overseas military authorities to the director of public information states that a special order of the day addressed to all ranks of the Canadian corps was issued on Christmas day by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Arthur Currie, the corps commander. The message reads:—

"I wish a very happy Christmas to all ranks of the Canadian corps. Christmas is each year since 1914 brought a message of hope, but the hearts of the people at home were heavy and full of forebodings as the tom-toms of battle could only harden our purpose to keep on fighting until Christianity and civilization were vindicated and re-established. And now we have reached our goal. The foe is vanquished. The powers of darkness are defeated. We can this year celebrate with joy the anniversary of the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace."

"The message to our people in Canada. Be happy this Christmas. We have won. We will soon be home. From the great beyond, our fallen comrades—ever present in our hearts—bid us all to be happy. Christ is born again."

MONTREAL ESCAPES DEFICIT

Retrenchment and Increase in Tax Rate Bring About This Condition

Montreal, Dec. 27—Despite a decrease of revenue amounting to \$456,000, due to the depreciation of the value of property in Montreal, the administrative commission in the 1919 budget will be able to inform the city council that there will be no deficit for the coming year. It is the first time the revenue of the city and the expenditures have balanced since 1914. This very favorable result could have been attained only by a retrenchment which the commissioners have enforced during the eight months they have been in office. An increase in the rate of taxation. The result was to remain at \$1.35 on each \$100 valuation of property.

DEMAND THE RELEASE OF SKIDMORE; THREATEN A GENERAL ONTARIO STRIKE

Stratford, Ont., Dec. 27—Late last night the Local Trades and Labor Council passed a resolution demanding the release of Arthur Skidmore, or if that is not done within reasonable time, threatening to call a general strike throughout Ontario. The end of the week seems to be looked on as a reasonable time.

The minister of labor had said that if the decision of the local courts was not satisfactory the union place before him full information regarding the trial. This was done by wire yesterday, the whole case being presented from the time of the first arrest and the entering of a charge that Skidmore was a Social-Democrat, which was afterwards lifted by request of the government, and a new charge placed regarding possession of objectionable literature, under which sentence of a \$200 fine and thirty days in jail, or falling in payment of the fine of six months in jail, was imposed.

REMEMBERED HIS OLD PAL

George Newcomb, son of William Newcomb of Torryburn, a former member of the Imperial Theatre staff, and now in Winnipeg, sent practical token of Christmas good-will and remembrance to his old associates in the theatre in the shape of boxes of cigars and tins of cigarettes. George likes the west and says he is getting along finely.