

The Evening Times Star

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WEATHER MAN HOLDS OUT NO HOPE FOR TOMORROW, "CONTINUED VERY COLD"

Eighteen Below This Morning Official Record, With 24 Mile Wind From North; Woodstock and Andover Had it 35

"Northerly gales with snow in eastern portion, fair in west; Tuesday, northwest winds, fair and continued very cold."

The indications offer no immediate relief from the present severe cold spell and the only consolation lies in the fact that we are getting a bit used to it. The thermometer this morning registered eighteen degrees below zero at the meteorological observatory in Douglas avenue, and the maximum velocity of the cold northerly wind was twenty-four miles an hour. In different sections of the city as low as twenty-four degrees was recorded. Early this morning workmen returning from the Pointing Point, West Side, twenty-seven; Sand Point, twenty-six; Bay Shore, twenty-four; St. Stephen, twenty-five; Fredericton, twenty-four; Grand Falls, thirty-six; Point Lepreau, nineteen; Woodstock, thirty-five; Chatham, twelve; Gagetown, thirty-two.

The cold weather of the last few days struck Fairville with particular intensity, thermometers as usual reading several degrees lower than in the city. On Sunday 20 below was the general story, though 22 was reported in some sections. Today reports indicate that the cold has reached a climax not attained in years. On the Manawagonish road near Moore's Hill one thermometer is said to have registered 26 below while 23 and 24 below come from several reputable citizens. At 9 o'clock 20 below was read from a store vestibule in Main street, Fairville.

The Wilson Box Company started operations this morning as usual but found they could not supply enough steam to keep the machinery going and heat the mill premises too, so after an hour's work the plant was shut down. Car passengers crossing the bridges today remarked that it seemed almost like going through a fog the vapor from the river was so thick.

Two Places Report 35 From other places today came these reports: Sydney—Heavy fall dry snow, wind northeast, strong. Andover—35 below, clear. Edmundston—30 below at 7 a.m. Woodstock—36 below at 6 a.m., 26 at 10 a.m. St. Stephen—28 below, fair. Fredericton—28 below. Moncton—Light west wind, 15 below, overcast. Chatham—West wind, fine, 30 below.

Quebec Bridge Affected Quebec, Dec. 31—Due to the intense cold of the last three days, the structure of the Quebec bridge has sustained a contraction of fully nine feet. This will not affect the structure, for this state of things had been provided by the engineers.

58 Below Sherbrooke, Que., Dec. 31—The coldest spell in many years holds this district in its grasp. Yesterday and today the thermometer registered 45 below at the Experimental Farm, Lennoxville. Rock Island 58 below is reported. Business in many of the smaller stores is completely at a standstill, owing to inability to keep buildings warm. The coal situation is becoming very acute, and the dealers are beset. There is coal on the way, but it has been held up on the railways.

PHONE STRIKE IN BOSTON IS AVERTED Boston, Dec. 31—A threatened strike of telephone operators of the New England Telephone Company in this city and nearby was averted last night when the principal wage demands were granted by the company. The settlement was announced after conferences by a federal mediator and representatives of the company and the young women of the operators' union.

ARRESTS IN NOME ON SEDITION CHARGES Nome, Alaska, Dec. 31—Earl Rogers, editor of the Nome Industrial Workers, and five members of the editorial board of the paper, which is owned by a miners' union, were arrested yesterday for alleged seditious articles which, it is charged, appeared in the Worker.

AMERICAN EXPORTS IN EXCESS OF SIX BILLIONS. Washington, Dec. 31—America's exports were estimated today at the department of commerce to have passed the \$6,000,000,000 mark in 1917, a new high record. Imports were less than \$3,000,000,000, and the trade balance in favor of the United States probably will be more than \$3,100,000,000.

Seven Hundred Canadians Mentioned In Haig Despatches London, Dec. 30—More than 700 Canadians are mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatch of Saturday night. The list embraces all branches of the service. General Sir Arthur Currie to privates and nurses. Mentioning names is impossible, but the names will appear later.

SEVEN DEATHS IN NEW YORK

Coal Famine Impending There Today

Gotham Has Not Suffered so Much in Thirty Years as on Saturday and Yesterday—Worse Today, as Many More Would Have to be Out Doors

New York, Dec. 31—Below zero weather for two days resulting in private houses and apartments consuming thousands of tons of coal above their normal requirements has made such deep inroads in the surplus today that a coal famine is impending in this city. Across the Hudson River are thousands of tons of coal, but the severe weather made its transfer to distributors a matter of extreme difficulty.

Not in thirty years has this city suffered as it did on Saturday and yesterday, and, hopeless of relief, was preparing to suffer again today. At 8 o'clock this morning thermometers registered seven degrees below zero, while reports from outlying districts showed lower temperatures by several degrees. Directly or indirectly the cold yesterday resulted in seven known deaths, while hundreds were treated at hospitals, which report that there will have to be many amputations of frost-bitten fingers, toes and ears.

City officials and charity workers predict that today there will be more widespread distress than yesterday, when thousands, enabled by the Sunday idleness to remain indoors, would be forced into the open.

In Boston, Dec. 31—New England was still suffering today from the most severe cold wave ever officially recorded in this section. In this city the temperature remained below zero all day, brought a stiff northeast wind. The minimum was eight below.

Washington, Dec. 31—Immediate action by the railroads to relieve the critical coal shortage, particularly in New England and other sections suffering from the cold wave, was being considered today by Director-General McAdoo and members of the railroad war board.

POLITICAL BALANCE IN CONGRESS VERY CLOSE Washington, Dec. 31—How close the political balance in the House will be when congress re-convenes on January 8, is shown by the following summary made by the clerk of the House: Total membership, 435; Democrats, 211; Republicans, 209; Independents, 6; vacancies, 9.

Phelix and Pherdinand WEATHER REPORT 1918 Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—The weather has moderated in the western provinces, but continues very cold over Ottawa Valley eastward. Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Partly fair and not so cold, with some light snow today and on Tuesday. Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Fair and very cold today; stationary or a little higher temperature on Tuesday.

ON RUSSIAN FRONT



German "soldiers" are sufficient to keep the Russian army in check to the end of the war, and we can now attack the English at Ypres! (Hurray!)—From Mueha (Moscow).

Thousand Dead; 40 Per Cent of Homes In Guatemala Wrecked

New York, Dec. 31—An estimate of 1,000 persons dead in the earthquake ruins of Guatemala City is contained in a telegram received here from the Central and South American Telegraph Company's manager at San Jose, Guatemala, who returned to San Jose from Guatemala City yesterday. The message reads: "The English and American consulates are badly wrecked. Forty per cent of the houses in the city are demolished; most of the houses have collapsed and are uninhabitable. The penitentiary, asylum and ministerial buildings are all wrecked. The office and large churches are demolished. Material losses have been declared and several looters have been shot. The president has ordered the inhabitants of the city to leave. Terrific earthquake shocks continue at intervals of about five minutes. The death toll is estimated at 1,000. All telephone wires in the interior are again silent."

Quebec Business Boycott Against Ontario Begun, Says Le Canada, Montreal

Montreal, Dec. 31—A business boycott against Ontario by people of Quebec has begun, according to Le Canada, a Liberal morning paper published here. Le Canada says it knows of some French-Canadian houses in Montreal and other Canadian houses in Ontario that have dealings with Ontario concerns, people who are regarded as the enemy of their race.

GREAT BRUSH FIRE FIFTY MILES WIDE

London, Dec. 31, via Reuter's Ottawa Agency—A despatch from Sydney says that the biggest bush fire recorded in the bay districts has been burning for days on a front of fifty miles, heavily destroying crops, fencing and grass. Other fires are reported in the Wagga Wagga district.

WIDOW OF HON. RALPH SMITH DECLINES HERSELF CANDIDATE

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 31—Mrs. Smith, widow of Hon. Ralph Smith, minister of finance in the British Columbia government, announces that she will be a candidate for the legislature at the by-election in Vancouver made necessary by the death of her husband last summer.

THE SITUATION IN AUSTRALIA

London, Dec. 31, via Reuter's Ottawa Agency—Melbourne's latest referendum figures are 945,000 votes for and 1,121,000 against. The referendum figures include the votes of the Australian forces hitherto announced, viz., 51,000 for and 56,000 against.

ABSENTEE DEPOTS

That is Name of Places Where Certain Eligibles For Service Will Be Taken in The depots established throughout the province under the Military Service Act, are to be known as absentee detachments. The men liable under the act who have not reported for service and those who have reported and have been advised to report for duty and do not, will be rounded up and taken to the absentee detachment nearest their home.

Hopes To See "The Boys Come Home" In 1918

Lord Derby's Cheery Message to Paris Matin; Lord Cecil Not so Optimistic; British Win Back Part of Lost Ground

London, Dec. 31—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Lord Derby, in a message to Le Matin, hopes that the coming year will see the troops returning home after a victory of right over might.

Lord Robert Cecil, in a message, admits that the French and British troops have a hard year before them, but hopes that strengthened by the United States, they will hold out till victory. "Let us hope that the war will end before next New Year," he says.

London, Dec. 31—The British in successful counter-attacks on the Cambrai front have regained the more important territory on Welsh Ridge taken by the Germans in yesterday's attack. The war office reports: "On the Cambrai front, as a result of successful counter-attacks in which we captured prisoners and machine guns, we regained the more important part of the positions on Welsh Ridge, into which the enemy penetrated yesterday. The enemy still retains a portion of our front trench in the vicinity of Lavacquerie and south of Maroquin."

Paris, Dec. 31—"Artillery actions occurred last night northwest of Rheims," the war office reports. "There were patrol encounters north of the Chemin des Dames (Aisne front) and near Besonvaux (Verdun front). Everywhere else the night was calm."

London, Dec. 30—A British statement follows: "Two hostile machines were brought down in our lines on Saturday. A third was brought down in the machines' lines. Two other hostile machines were driven down out of control. None of our airplanes is missing."

London, Dec. 30—A despatch to Reuters, Limited, from British headquarters says the Germans are experiencing difficulty in maintaining efficiency in their air service on the western front. The correspondent says prisoners are unanimous in saying that the output of new machines is very limited, and that this is compelling the employment of old types of aircraft.

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GARMINI CHURCH IN PADUA BOMBED AND TAKES FIRE

Great Damage Caused and Lives Are Lost SAN VALENTINE'S ALSO IRKUTSK SET AFIRE

Rome, Dec. 31—The war office communication issued on Saturday says: "Along the whole front there have been only artillery actions. They were particularly intense on the Monte Tomba sector."

Padua, Dec. 30—The ancient monumental Garmini church of Padua was the scene of a vast conflagration last night which lighted up the sky for miles. The fire started from incendiary bombs dropped by enemy airplanes in another raid which scattered widespread destruction and death.

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RUSSIAN RETURN 14 SEIZED AUSTRIAN STEAMERS

Amsterdam, Dec. 31—Fourteen Austrian steamers seized by the Russians in the course of the war were restored to their Austrian owners in keeping with an agreement reached at Brest-Litovsk, according to a despatch from Vienna. The total gross tonnage of the steamers is 40,000.

British, Says Guardian, Will Reply To Enemy Peace Offer

London, Dec. 31—The Manchester Guardian says it is the intention of the British government, when the Austro-German terms of peace are presented officially, to return a serious and reasoned reply. Premier Lloyd George has arranged to visit France, according to the newspaper, to confer with Premier Clemenceau on this subject.