

**The Battle Line.**

List of Local Option Contents now on and number of Licenses thereby Threatened

CITIES—	No. Licenses
BELLEVILLE.....	18
Brantford.....	12
Fort William.....	17
Niagara Falls.....	18
Port Arthur.....	18
Sarnia.....	12
Stratford.....	12
Woodstock.....	9
<b>TOWNS—</b>	
Aurora.....	3
Carleton Place.....	3
Dresden.....	2
Niagara.....	6
Oakville.....	2
Oshawa.....	4
Parkhill.....	3
Parry Sound.....	3
Petrolia.....	6
Thessalon.....	3
Uxbridge.....	3
Wallaceburg.....	6
Whitby.....	5
<b>VILLAGES—</b>	
Bancroft.....	2
Bath.....	1
Brin.....	1
Cleneoe.....	3
Lucan.....	1
Merriville.....	2
Oil Springs.....	2
Port Perry.....	3
Westport.....	3
<b>TOWNSHIPS—</b>	
Amherst Island.....	1
Banger, Wicklow & McCure.....	0
Biddulph.....	1
Chapleau.....	2
Chapman.....	1
Pitroy.....	2
Goucester.....	4
London.....	6
Louth.....	1
McMurrich.....	1
Marjboro'.....	1
Monteagle and Herschel.....	1
Sombra.....	5
<b>LICENSE REDUCTION</b>	
Ottawa.....	38

# RUSSIANS PREPARE TO INVADE BULGARIA

**Now Bombarding Varna and Sixteen Transports Wait off the Coast—Turks and Bulgars May Also Join in Invasion of Greece—Berlin Claims that Greeks Still Dominate Saloniki—General Duvet Released on Parole**

## RUSSIANS BOMBARDING GREECE.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—An Athens despatch reports that sixteen transports filled with Russian troops have arrived off the Bulgarian coast under convoy of warships and that a bombardment of Varna by the Russian fleet is in progress.

## TURKS AND BULGARS ALSO TO INVADE GREECE.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A Daily Mail Saloniki despatch says everything points to the belief that despite Greece's protests the Austrians, Germans, Turks and Bulgarians will cross the Greek frontier as soon as they are ready.

The Turks are reported to have concentrated two divisions with cavalry and artillery close to the Greek frontier at Nevropok and Kustendil.

## GREEKS STILL DOMINATE SALONIKI CLAIMS BERLIN.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A Berlin despatch claims that although the Greek troops left Saloniki to the Allies, Fort Karaburna which dominates the port is still garrisoned by Greeks in spite of repeated requests from allies that it be handed over to them.

## GENERAL DE WET RELEASED ON PAROLE.

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 21.—General Christian De Wet, convicted of treason at Bloemfontein, Union of South Africa, last June has been released from prison on parole together with 118 other high treason prisoners.

## WELLAND CANAL CONSPIRACY MERE INCIDENT IN BIG PLOT.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Information obtained by the federal authorities today from witnesses appearing before the grand jury which is investigating the alleged plot of Paul Koenig, head of the detective bureau of the Hamburg-American Line, to blow up the Welland Canal, have widely extended the scope of the enquiry. After the grand jury had adjourned for the day federal officials stated that the Welland Canal plot might prove to be merely an incident in a conspiracy which extended throughout the country.

Indictments against Koenig and Richard Emil Leyendecker, the New York art goods dealer who was arrested with him, are expected to be returned on Wednesday. United States Attorney Marshal admitted, however, that these indictments would probably be merely the forerunner of others to be sought from subsequent grand juries dealing with other activities of Koenig. While the Koenig case was occupying the attention of one federal grand jury, Samuel Gompers, president of the American

Federation of Labor, was appearing before another which is concluding its enquiry in the case of Franz von Rittelen, charged with instigating strikes in munition factories.

After leaving the grand jury-room Mr. Gompers declared that he knew of no instance in which any leader of organized labor had been corrupted by German agents. He intimated that he had information in regard to attempts being made to bribe union heads. Mr. Gompers will resume his testimony tomorrow, when Frank Morrison, secretary of the Federation of Labor, will also appear before the jury.

## BRITISH AT KUT-EL-AMARA MAKE SUCCESSFUL SORTIES

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Parties of the British Mesopotamia army that are holding positions on the Tigris River at Kut-el-Amara have been sallying forth and attacking the Turkish advanced trenches. It was announced in an official report tonight on the operations of this expeditionary force. The losses of the Turks since Dec. 1 are estimated to have been at least 2,500. The statement says:

"General Townshend reports that in his estimation the Turks must have lost no less than 2,500 men in the rear-guard action on Dec. 1, and their abortive attack on his position at Kut-el-Amara during the night on Dec. 12-13.

During the night of Dec. 17-18, mixed parties of British and Indian troops surprised the Turks in their advanced trenches, killing about 80 and taking 11 prisoners.

"The 18th and the 19th passed quietly."

## SUBMARINES SINK TWO MORE BRITISH STEAMERS

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Two more British steamers have been sunk by German submarines, the Huntley, formerly the German steamer Ophelia and the Belford, the crews were saved.

## TURKS CLAIM ALLIES' WITHDRAWAL WAS NECESSARY.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—Constantinople despatches state that the withdrawal of the British from the Anzac and Suvla Bay districts of the Gallipoli Peninsula came as the result of a violent offensive on the part of the Turks who inflicted heavy losses.

## GENERAL RUZSKY'S HEALTH FAILS.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A Petrograd despatch says Gen. Ruzsky has been relieved from command of the Russian armies in the northern front owing to ill health.

## MRS. ASQUITH SECURES INJUNCTION AGAINST LONDON GLOBE.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Chancery Court today granted Mrs. Asquith, wife of the Premier, the injunction for which she asked to restrain the Globe from the publication of alleged libellous articles.

## HUNGARIAN MILITARY AFE LIMIT EXTENDED TO 55 YEARS

BUDAPEST, Dec. 21.—The Hungarian parliament today voted to extend the limit for obligatory military service to fifty-five years.

## WITHDRAWAL OF BIG FORCE HELPS ALLIES

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Operations in other sectors of the front on the Gallipoli Peninsula than those from which troops were announced today to have been withdrawn are to be continued, it is intimated in an official statement. The withdrawal was effected without knowledge of the movement on the part of the Turks, it is declared. An official statement says:

"Further details of the evacuation of the Anzac and Suvla zones have been received. Without the Turks being aware of the movement, a great army has been withdrawn from one of the areas occupied on the Gallipoli Peninsula, although in the closest of contact with the enemy. By this contraction of the front, operations at other points of the line will be more effectively carried out.

"Sir Charles Monro gives great credit for this skilfully conducted transfer of forces to the generals commanding, and the royal navy."

An earlier official statement said that all the troops at Suvla Bay and Anzac, together with their guns and stores had been successfully transferred with insignificant casualties to another field of operation.

The announcement of the British withdrawal from two zones in Gallipoli over-shadowed all other war news last night. For the British public the abrupt war office statement marks the end of the great chapters of the war's history.

The shock of the news was hardly broken by the fact that rumors had been current in the street for some days, and the withdrawal of the forces had been a matter of widespread pro and con discussion ever since Lord Ribblesdale's famous speech in parliament in which he declared that withdrawal had been recommended by a high military authority.

The feeling of the man in the street was generally one of relief mixed with regret. A popular half-penny paper sums up the enterprise on which the highest hopes were built and which, if it had succeeded, would probably have turned the tide of the war. Our troops from first to last were within a few miles of victory."

The policy underlying the Dardanelles expedition may yet be carried to a successful issue in some other quarter of the near east but the prospect of forcing a way to Constantinople through the famous straits is apparently relinquished.

British troops continue to occupy the tip of the peninsula at Seddul Bahr, commanding the entrance to the straits, where many British have declared a new Gibraltar will one day arise. The position here is protected by a double line of ships, and it is assumed that this will be held.

In giving the House of Commons information of the withdrawal of the Suvla and Anzac forces as announced by the war office, Premier Asquith added that the transfer was made in pursuance of a decision reached by the cabinet some time ago.

"The operations successfully carried out," said the Premier, reflects the utmost credit upon the general on the spot, upon the admiral, the staff and all ranks of both army and navy."

## FOE UNABLE TO PAY INTEREST ON WAR DEBT.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 21.—Reviewing the recent speech on Germany's financial condition, which Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the treasury, made before the Reichstag, the Socialist newspaper, Vorwaerts of Berlin, asserts the time has come for the German government and the Reichstag to indicate in what way the money necessary for payment of interest on the nation's gigantic war debts, and to provide for their redemption, is to be raised. It says:

"With the new war credit of 10,000,000,000 marks (\$2,950,000,000), the German war debt reaches 40,000,000,000 marks (\$8,000,000,000), which, according to Dr. Helfferich, should last until the end of March. Interest on 40,000,000,000 marks (\$500,000,000) annually and for redemption, which is necessary in order to maintain the credit of the empire, another 500,000,000 marks (\$100,000,000) is needed.

The Vorwaerts considers it essential that the empire's income be more than double to meet these obligations and the current expenses.

## Second in one Family to be Shot Accidentally

Roy Moore, a young man whose home is in Duggan township, lost his life in a rather peculiar manner. He was employed in a lumber camp as a scaler. He was about to accompany the scaler into the woods when he decided to take a rifle with him. He stepped into the camp, and reaching across the bunk, grasped the weapon by the muzzle and drew it towards him. The trigger caught in the bedding, and the rifle was discharged. The bullet struck him below the heart and passed through his body. He lived about an hour and a half, and died before medical aid could be secured. The victim was 28 years of age. Ten years ago an elder brother met his death in a similar manner.

Roy attended Stirling High School some years ago, and was a great favorite among his school friends. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved family.—News Argus.

## Christmas Cheer By Army Band

Dear Friends,—We hope to have the pleasure (D.V.) during Christmas season of playing a few selections of music suitable for the occasion in the vicinity in which you live. As this is a means we have of helping our local work and recalling the memory of past experience at the hands of the people of Belleville, prompts us to again appeal to your generosity when the collectors wait upon you while the band is playing. The bandmaster or bandmen receive no pay, their services are gladly given to help the cause in this city. With grateful thanks for all past help, on behalf of the band, Yours very sincerely, R. Burka, Secretary, Thos. D. Ruston, C.O.

## Poor Children's Xmas Tree

A special performance will be given at Scott's Theatre, Thurs. evening Dec. 23rd., in connection with the XVth Regiment Band. Mr. Scott is giving everything over expenses to the Poor Children's Xmas Tree. Good pictures, band and orchestra in attendance. Admission 10c to all.

## Address on Kipling

Prof. J. G. Carter Troop, M.A., who has been heard by Belleville audiences on several occasions was again the speaker last evening at the open meeting of the Women's Canadian Club at the High School last evening. Prof. Troop's subject was "Kipling." An account of his address will appear in tomorrow's issue.

See Windows

# RICHIE'S, THE XMAS STORE

See Windows

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS WORTH WHILE FOR MOTHER, FATHER, SISTER AND BROTHER

### What is More Acceptable than Handkerchiefs.



The Handkerchief Booth on the main floor offers Christmas buyers some hundreds of different style Handkerchiefs to choose from, all of the Christmas gift quality and so low in price that it only takes a very little money to buy a gift worth while.

A Special Assortment of Embroidered and Lace Edged Handkerchiefs to sell at 15c each.

Sample Linen Handkerchiefs, embroidered and Lace edged 25c to \$1.00 Gift Handkerchiefs, done up in pretty Xmas Envelopes with card neatly initialed and 3 in Envelope for 25c.

Pure Linen Initialed Handkerchiefs, 15c, 20c, and 25c each.

Linen and Linen Finished Handkerchiefs, plain, lace and embroidered 5c to \$1.50.

Plain Pure Linen Handkerchiefs, ¼, ¾, and ½ inch hems, 15c to 35c each.

Children's Colored Handkerchiefs, singly 3c, 4c, and 5c each or 3 in a box 15c.

Maltese Handkerchiefs, 25c to \$2.75 each.

### Just 31 Stopping Hours before Xmas

And these will be busy hours especially in the afternoon, so we make this last appeal to our customers to shop in the morning if at all possible. It will be far more convenient.

### Eiderdown and Maish Comforters

SERVE MOST APPROPRIATELY FOR THOSE WHO KEEP HOUSE

And if you decide to give a Comforter, don't fail to see our extensive showing of these popular Bed Covers. The "Eiderdown" and the "Maish" are the softest, lightest, yet warmest cotton filled Comforter made. They are to be produced in beautiful coverings of silk, silkoline, or combinations of both.

The Eiderdowns range in price from \$5.00 to \$16.00.

The Maish Comforters priced from \$1.75 to \$7.75. (See Windows)

### Tea Aprons

Our showing embraces scores of neat designs, made up of Volles, Fine Swiss Spot Muslins and Lace Cloths. The majority of these prettily trimmed with lace and ribbon prices, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, 85c, \$1.00 and \$1.25.



### Corset Covers

FOR THE XMAS TRADE.

Although the prices of Laces, Embroideries and Nainsook are advancing, we have better values than ever before in our Xmas stock of Corset Covers, also a larger selection to choose from, all well made and prettily trimmed with laces, embroideries, and ribbon, sizes 34 to 45, prices 25c to \$5.

### Xmas Blouses

No finer collection of Fancy Blouses to choose from could be desired than our Christmas showing represents. It embraces all the newest materials and styles to be worn for months to come. The majority of the styles are the latest New York tendencies, some exceptionally pretty combination effects are shown, all priced very reasonable.

Voile Blouses—\$1.50 to \$4.50.

Crepe de Chine, Georgette Crepe Taffeta and Jap' Silk Blouses, \$4.50 to \$11.50.



## SHOP EARLY

### MEN'S CHRISTMAS NECKWEAR

There isn't a single Cravat here than any man wouldn't be glad to receive as a gift. All the newest shapes and shades are displayed in the new textures, and the colors, patterns and stripes are extremely well chosen. Every Tie put in a pretty Xmas box free of charge. A special line of Boxed Neckwear at 25c. Others priced up to \$1.50.

### Ladies' Wash Cape Gloves

Something new in the way of dependable Gloves for Xmas. They are very similar to the regular cape gloves, only washable. Fern's famous make in the new "Mastic" shade. Black points one dome fastener and very special value at \$1.50 pr.

W  
ONS  
\$5.00  
to \$2.75  
to \$3.50  
to \$1.25  
prices  
prices  
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R'S