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THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. I. No. 292.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1914.

Price:—1 cent.

WIND BOWLED MEN OVER AS THEY MARCHED ALONG

Terrific Storm of Wind and Rain Sweeps Coast of Northern France, Multiplying the Discomforts of Soldiers in Both Camps

London, Dec. 30.—A correspondent of The Daily News in Northern France telegraphs that a tremendous gale, by far the wildest for the winter, raged over the coast here last night after a day of drenching rain.

All operations were stopped and the warships, destroyers, submarines and monitors ceased their tactics long before sundown when the storm broke with terrifying power. It not only paralysed the fighting at sea but made sheer mockery of offensive and defensive work on land.

Regular Sand Storm.

The tempest along the dunes, with sand and shingles flying almost with the fierceness of bursting shrapnel, beat the breath out of anyone who was audacious enough to attempt to stand up against it.

One whole regiment returning fit and eager to the front was struck broadside on its coastward march, the men actually being blown about and toppled over like nine pins.

Heavy automobile and transport wagons were blown over and horses as well as men refused to face the gale.

Yser floods were pools and lakes no longer, but raging seas, and the news came that many German soldiers were drowned during the night in an attempt to bring off a hazardous coup.

The full effects of abnormal gale and blizzard on Monday night in London and the southern were not fully known until late yesterday.

Sprang Up Suddenly.

This was due to the hour at which hurricane suddenly sprang up and to telegraphic breakdowns.

From many quarters there came messages of disaster and damage on land. Around the South and South-east coasts and in the Channel many lives were lost at Clapham, Gillingham, Sheerness, Margate and Southend.

Shipping at the southeast coast appears to have suffered extensively. At Dover where the hurricane blew at the rate of light miles an hour even a big passenger steamship was blown out of the harbor.

AUSTRIAN ANTI-WAR RIOTING

People of Six Provinces of the Dual Monarchy Demonstrated in Favor of Peace

London, Dec. 31.—The Chronicle's Basel, Switzerland, correspondent forwards despatches received from various parts of Austria, Hungary, purporting to show that rioting against war is occurring in six Provinces of the Dual Monarchy.

Disturbances are of daily occurrence in Budapest, according to these despatches and similar reports have been received from Prague, Transylvania, Agram and the Dalmatian coast towns.

Enemy Evacuates Bank Of Bzura

Russians Push Back German Forces In Poland.

London, Dec. 30.—The French Government reports advance at various points, including the capture of the village of St. George's in Belgium and the investment of Steinbach in Alsace also the loss of a section of trenches south of Ypres.

Calls It Battle Of Bath Houses

Sarcastic Reference of British Paper To Recent German Raid.

London, Dec. 28.—Referring sarcastically to the recent bombardment of Scarborough, the seaside resort as the "battle of bath houses," the Pall Mall Gazette, commenting on the interview with Grand Admiral Von Tirpitz, declares:

"The battle of the bath houses evidently failed to raise the spirits of Von Tirpitz, who now pins his faith on submarine attacks against British commerce. This is a form of warfare of which we are singularly not afraid. Zeppelin might well exclaim like the old lady, when told to place her trust in Providence: 'Has it come to that?'"

Note Of The U.S. Pacific In Tone

Solely Intended to Clear the Air—Not at All Bellicose.

New York, Dec. 30.—The comments of the papers here on the American Government's note are in no wise bellicose. The Herald thinks it was with a view to bring about less irritating methods that the Washington Government has acted.

U.S Note Considered By British

Cabinet Takes Up Complaint of American Shippers—No Reply For a Few Days

London, Dec. 31.—The British Cabinet held a special session this afternoon to consider the American Government's note concerning the delay to American shipping caused by the searching of vessels by the British fleet.

The note reached the foreign office yesterday and the subject of American shipping continues to monopolise interest here.

No Reply For Few Days.

It is not expected that a reply to the note will be drafted for some days, being pointed out that a document which took weeks to draft could hardly be digested by the cabinet at one meeting. Even Sir Edward Grey, British Foreign Secretary, who returned to town today and found the note on his desk, hardly had time to read, much less consider, it before meeting his colleagues.

Besides, information will have to be sought at the Admiralty, which Department is responsible for the examination of ships and cargoes. Permanent officials of the foreign office and Law officers of the Crown, necessarily, will be called upon for diplomatic and legal opinions on the case submitted by President Wilson.

Can be Made Easier.

British ship owners, who are almost as greatly concerned over the situation as American shippers, today express their opinion that the matter would be amicably settled. The Director of one large Company, while admitting inconvenience was inevitable on the searching of ships, said it was possible that some of this inconvenience might be obviated.

Steamer Wrecked With Army Supplies

Yarmouth, Dec. 30.—The steamer Navarra 2867 tons, from St. John, N.B. for the United Kingdom with a cargo of hay, oats and army supplies, is ashore at Holmes Island, one of the Tusket group. She struck during a dense fog last night. Tugs have left for the scene. The steamer is a total loss.

Schr. Tatter left Wood's Island for Gloucester yesterday with 1850 lbs. herring.

Russian Success In East

Repulsed Strong German Attack and Captured Numerous Prisoners

(Russian Official Bulletin.)

Petrograd, Dec. 29 (Official)—Along the whole front of the armies operating on the left bank of the Vistula there has been a lull except in the region of Bolimow and Mowlodz and south of Maljoroz where fierce fighting continues. The Germans under very heavy and intense fire from our guns made an assault on Bourgrade. Borjomow and our trenches near Gombino, but our troops by impetuous counter attacks, slaughtered with their bayonets all of the enemy with the exception of a few who were made prisoners.

In this engagement we captured German machine guns and inflicted enormous losses on the enemy. Near Inowlodz our troops took possession of German trenches south of Pasade.

German Airships Drop Two Bombs On French Towns

Flew Over Dunkirk and Furnes and Caused Death of Fifteen Persons

London, Dec. 31.—Four German aeroplanes flew several times over the city of Dunkirk yesterday, dropping bombs as they went. Soldiers in the streets fired on the machines and one Taube seemed to be hit badly. All got safely away.

An official return of the casualties shows fifteen persons killed and thirty-two wounded. The bombs were filled with shrapnel.

Two bombs were also dropped on Furnes. The attack on Furnes was evidently an effort to wipe out the Belgian Headquarters where King Albert is at present.

No damage was done there.

The Ad. D. Bishop taking 1025 barrels of herring and 41 quintals of codfish, shipped by C. F. Bishop & Co., left Burin yesterday for Halifax.

REPORT SAYS KAISER VERY ILL

New York, Dec. 31.—A cable to The Tribune from Rome says it is rumored Kaiser has had a relapse and that his condition is serious.

It is impossible to obtain confirmation of this report.

USED FISTS WHEN RIFLES GOT CHOKED

Allied Troops Fought the Germans According to Primitive Methods—Outlook Good Both East and West

London, Dec. 31.—News was received from Dover last night that a squadron of seven aeroplanes flew over Dunkirk yesterday and dropped bombs.

A despatch from Rotterdam says that commencing January first, the German administration of Belgium intends to close the Belgian borders against all comers. No more passports will be issued or recognised except a special military pass.

The cause for this unusual proclamation is not known here but is believed to have been ordered to prevent espionage.

No Important Development.

Since Russian defeat of the Austrians in Galicia, which, while not irreparable, is likely to have a marked effect on the whole Austro-German campaign in the east, there has been no important development on either front.

The Allies, although making no dramatic attacks on the German lines, are steadily hammering away with their artillery and, when the occasion arises, push their lines a few yards forward.

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Austrian Overtures For Peace

Unofficial Offers of Galicia to Russia and Bosnia to Serbia

Paris, Dec. 28.—Austria has made unofficial peace overtures to the allies through Vienna bankers upon the basis of the concession of Galicia to Russia and Bosnia to Serbia.

The proposal is favorably received, but is held in abeyance until it is known what the attitude of Italy and Rumania will be respecting such concessions.

Galicia is one of the biggest and wealthiest provinces in Austria. The latest census, that of 1910, places the population at eight millions, dwelling on 30,321 square miles. In spite of protests by Russia and Serbia, Austria annexed Bosnia in 1908. The province has an area of about 20,000 square miles and a population of about 2,000,000.

Japs Want Help Allies In Europe

Popular Demonstrations in Tokio in Favour of ending Troops To The West.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—Demonstrations are occurring with the object of urging the Government to send troops to Europe. This is calculated to disconcert the opposition to the increase of the army.

Leading newspapers argue that it is not clear that the allied Governments and people really desire to have the Japanese take part in the European war. Japan, they say, in attacking Tsing-Tau, simply acted in accordance with the terms of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

It is also pointed out that while the country is making arduous efforts to increase the army by two divisions it is not consistent to say that it can spare 500,000 men for Europe.

Portia left Trepassay at 9.15 a.m.

S.S. Tabasco arrived at Liverpool this morning.

NEWFOUNDLANDERS, HARDY, SMART AND WELL-SET-UP

Made Sacrifice For The Soldiers

Peasant Girl sold Her Tresses to Buy Them Presents.

Paris, Dec. 28.—The National Soldiers' Gift Committee has received over half a million Christmas offerings for the troops in service, varying from live geese to sprigs of holly and mistletoe tied with tricolor ribbon, but the strangest and most touching came to-day—coils of long golden hair.

The sender, a Lorraine peasant girl, Yvonne Pursel, living in the Vosges hamlet of Chatillon-sur-Laone, wrote asking the committee to buy a soldier's valise with the proceeds.

"I am sorry to give extra trouble, but I live so far from a town where I might sell it myself, and did not wish to send cash because I wanted to sacrifice my proudest possession for the sake of the defenders of France."

France Building Air-Craft Fleets

New York, Dec. 31.—France is building two great fleets of aircraft armed with cannon and bombs with which to invade Germany in the spring according to Pedro Chapa, a Mexican aviator, who has been in Europe for the last four years and who arrived here on the Carpathia.

Numerous Peasants Murdered

Thousands of Polish Non-Combatants Slaughtered By the Germans

Petrograd, Dec. 28.—Immense slaughter is occurring in West Poland battles, and will doubtless not be abated until an ascendancy has been definitely established.

In the region of Sochazew thousands of civilians have been killed. The Germans used eight-inch guns against the town and smashed the high tenement houses, whose inhabitants were crushed to death under the masonry.

When the population tried to flee along the broad road to Warsaw, the German guns poured shells among the masses of men, women and children. Hundreds were trampled to death.

At Lowicz the same thing occurred, hundreds being killed under the wrecked buildings.

A Russian officer who was decorated for the capture of six German guns at Lowicz states that eighty German prisoners were women who had been fighting in the trenches.

FRENCH CLAIM SLIGHT GAINS

Official Announcement Says There Was Advance in West.

Paris, Dec. 30.—France claims slight gains near Nieuport in an official announcement given out by the War Department this afternoon.

This communication also recites other points along the line where German attacks have been driven back.

There has been heavy bombardment at St. George's in the Aisne region and on the heights of the Meuse.

CLYDE GETS FREE FROM THE ICE

The Reid Newfoundland Company had a message from Capt. Knee of the Clyde yesterday afternoon informing them that the steamer had got clear of the ice at Lewisporte, and reached Twillingate Arm.

Capt. Knee also reported that if existing weather conditions continued the steamer would be able to make the various ports of call before returning here.

Says a Writer in The London Daily News, Describing a Visit to the Colonials on Salisbury Plain—As Efficient as Any

THE following is the second of a series of articles written in the London Daily News by Mr. Chas Woods, as the result of a visit to Salisbury Plain.

In his previous article Mr. Woods dealt with a very large part of the Canadian unit. He now goes on to discuss the Newfoundland and New Zealand contingents, and certain special sections of the Canadian force.

Before I leave the Canadian Contingent let me deal with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. This battalion was raised in Canada by Colonel Farquhar, under the special auspices of Princess Patricia of Connaught. Practically every man in the regiment has done previous military service. As a matter of fact amongst the number there are one or more representatives of every regiment in the British army except one—the colonel is not unjustly proud that his own regiment the Coldstream Guards is the most fully represented—and some 600 have actually served in the British regulars. Of the remainder between 100 and 150 have been in the territorial volunteers.

Many Possess Medals.

Moreover, amongst the men of which the battalion is composed, there are seven hundred and seventy-one medals of forty different kinds. These decorations include the Legion of Honor, the D.S.O., the distinguished service medal, and the medal of the Turco-Italian war.

The battalion is, therefore, already practically a fully trained unit, which could take the field in the more or less immediate future. All ranks are not unjustly proud that they are able to mark their headquarters by a flag made and embroidered by Her Royal Highness. Floating in the wind this crimson and blue emblem, which is a flag and not a color, displays conspicuously the gold embroidered monogram of the princess, and is for the men something which they will be able to take with them and to treasure throughout the campaign.

The regiments of cavalry, which, like the above described battalion, are over and above the ordinary strength of a unit of the size provided by Canada, are also worthy of note. To begin with, while they have been considerably expanded, by specially enlisted recruits for the purpose of the present expedition, they belong to what is known as the Canadian permanent horse.

Strathcona's Horse, which is the outcome, or perhaps more correctly the descendant of the regiment of the same name which did such good service in the South African War, is recruited from Western Canada. This corps is possessed of ten officers (amongst whom are three D.S.O.'s) who have seen previous active service. With a large permanent nucleus, strengthened by those who have passed through its own cavalry school, this regiment and the Royal Canadian Dragoons are practically ready to perform some sort of active service. Certain batteries of horse artillery, which

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AUSTRIAN WARSHIP TORPEDOED

French Submarine Ventured Into and Inflicted Damage on the Viribus Unitis

London, Dec. 31.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Venice contains a report that a French submarine has torpedoed the Austrian dreadnought Viribus Unitis at Pola.

It is said the hull of the dreadnought was pierced, but that she succeeded in reaching her dock.

The Viribus Unitis is a battleship of 20,000 tons, completed in 1913. She has a speed of 22 knots and carries a complement of 950 men.

Yet Another Milestone

By Rev. Harold T. Roe.

THE closing of the Old Year and the birth of the New is always a time when one ponders a little over the past and ventures a glance into the future.

The death of the Old Year is yet another milestone passed along the highway of our life. We give ourselves up to musing over distant scenes, and we recall faces that are no more. The wise man looks back upon his life and takes stock, so to speak of himself—of the progress he has made and the character that he has built.

He is a happy man indeed who can look back with entire satisfaction upon his life. Most of us are visited with regrets even as we sit and meditate. The mistakes of our life stand out in bold relief, and vainly do we dream of what might have been. We admit a wrong step taken here, and a wrong turn followed there, and our brain becomes maddened as we realize that it is all too late, and that nevermore is there open a way of escape. We have made our beds and we must lie upon them. We must drink even as we have brewed. Stern Father Time always carries his pen, and:

"The Moving Finger writes; and having writ,  
Moves on; nor all that thy pity, nor wit,  
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,  
Nor all thy tears wash out a word of it."

No! We cannot alter the past. We can neither change nor improve it. Oftentimes we wish we could but alas! it is altogether beyond our reach. It is gone, and all our wishes are ineffectual—let it be buried. Easily said, but, oh how difficult to perform.

The past refuses to be buried, and questions will rise up and demand an answer. Where are all our old school friends? How does life fare with them? What has become of that girl we loved in our boyhood days? What of that one we wronged? How does the old homestead look? A thousand and one thoughts scamper through our brain.

They cause us to sigh, and leave us a little sad. Then other voices speak, and other faces float before our vision, and our mind is filled with—"Pensive memories, as we journey on,  
Longings for vanished smiles and voices gone."

But let us leave the past—ah! we cannot, for our present is merely its outcome. What we are to-day is because of what we were yesterday. But at any rate let us snatch a glimpse into what lies ahead.

We are commencing another year. Our life has still another volume added to it. The pages yet are white and fair—they are ours to mar or beautify. Let us consider our duty to God and to our fellows. We have it entirely within our power to make this the best year that we yet have lived. It is our past marred and blotched. Now is the time to seek to redeem it. Are our aims and desires low and ignoble? Let us lift them and then try and live them. Life at best, is very short, should we not then live it well? We are all talking of making "new" resolutions when the New Year "resolutions" when the New Year dawns. Listen to Professor Tyndall—"In your warm moments form your resolutions, and in your cool ones

make those resolutions good."

Pray do not think I am preaching. This is simply a quiet heart talk with my circle of readers. We are not satisfied with ourselves, are we? We know full well that we are by no means all that we might be, and all that we ought to be. Our lives are somewhat dwarfed and stunted—and by barriers that we ourselves have raised—our selfishness, or our laziness or our frivolity, or—(fill in your own!)

Realizing the weakness is a grand accomplishment for it reveals to us that which needs strengthening. Show a soldier the breach in the fortress, and he knows where it needs repair. So with our lives. This needs to be tended, that wants to be cut away and the other calls for attention.

We have pondered the past, and we find nothing there upon which to congratulate ourselves—we have examined our present, and in our hearts we know that it is not satisfactory; as regards the future we have for our support, man's brightest angel—HOPE.

Hitherto have we journeyed midst sunshine and shadow, fair weather and foul, and we have yet some way to go. Take courage, ah Heart! Step out firmly, Form high resolves. Press on. The best has still to come. Writes Whittier somewhere:

"Our lives are albums written through  
With good or ill, with false or true,  
And as the blessed angels turn,  
The pages of our years,  
God grant they read the good with smiles,  
And blot the ill with tears."

That is my New Year's Prayer, and now that you have read it, I believe it is also yours.