

AND SUBURBS

School

Arthur Ward, singing—Junior...

Book Class, Mina Duff, Julia...

John Taylor, soprano—John Ben...

Ernest Aldridge, alto...

Maud Potts, soprano—Winnio Water...

Class, Fred Giesche, Dorothy Ward...

Arthur Ho...

Sydney Cripps, soprano—Leslie W...

Book Class, Bertie Aldridge...

Flora Park, soprano—Harry Shal...

John Mullen, soprano—Dorothy Gill...

Primary, Allan Hardacre, Robinson...

Alfred Miller, soprano—Hope...

Hammond, soprano—Eileen Gynane...

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NEWS FROM THE CITY HALL

ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT BYLAW IMPERTINENCE

That is How Mayor Characterizes Action of Council of Board of Trade.

CONFIDENCE IN BECK Has Never Yet Failed to Keep Promise and Never Will.

The action of the executive council of the board of trade in declining to oppose Sir Adam Beck's hydro radial bylaw has not in the least made Mayor Church and the other members of the civic government favoring the adoption of the bylaw waver in their opinion that its adoption is Toronto's great opportunity.

When discussing the matter yesterday, his worship drew attention to the fact that the council of the board of trade only represented about two and one-half per cent. of the members. He believed that the opposition would make the friends of public ownership all the more determined to go on and achieve the purpose which they have set out to attain.

In reply to the request from the council of the board of trade that the bylaw be withdrawn, the mayor said that this would not be considered at all. He believed that it was impertinence to ask such a thing in view of the fact that a big majority of the members of the city council had gone on record as being in favor of it. He would rather be defeated in the mayor-city campaign than see the bylaw defeated.

PEACE THRU VICTORY FRENCH TROOPS SANG

Christmas Celebration at Battlefront in Artois Universal Among Soldiers.

NO TRUCE IN TRENCHES

Firing Went on Round Souchez With Impromptu Concerts in Battle Lines.

ARTOIS BATTLEFRONT, France, Dec. 26.—Santa Claus and the Christmas spirit, in spite of the war, were in evidence everywhere along the Artois battlefront, where your correspondent passed Christmas Eve. They were in the trenches and soldiers with simple soldiers; in the temporary barracks, where the traditional Christmas Eve theatre was replaced by an improvised concert and vaudeville that called the best Paris could do in time of peace; in the quarters where officers celebrated with no less a merrily and dignity; and in the little church, still defying shell-fire, that one finds behind the battlefront.

At one time behind the battlefront a midnight mass was celebrated. From the road running almost parallel to the trenches rockets shooting up into the air from both lines recalled the birth of July fireworks in America. An officer explained that this was partly due to a habit.

"Fuses are set off every night," the officer explained, "even when the moon shines brightly as tonight, and besides the Germans may, as last year, have an idea that we are going at them before morning."

The fuses multiplied at the approach of midnight, and on the stroke of twelve the line as far as the horizon was illuminated as by a long line of brilliant stars. Flashes of different colors could be seen far away to the north, although no reports were heard.

Firing Around Souchez. They are firing away up there around Souchez, a lieutenant explained. Several miles up the deep wide ditch, with 12 inches of chalky mud on its bottom, just far enough from the German line to permit tranquil sleep, soldiers entertained each other with simple folk songs of their home regions, and examined parcels from home and talked of the future. One soldier read a little note from home which said: "This year it is I who play father. This year I broke open my savings bank and am sending presents to papa at the front." The soldier didn't explain who the writer was, but his cheek and arm's ending presents to papa at the front.

"They're singing over there," said a soldier just back from the first trench. "They've got an orchestra and they're shouting to beat all, but it doesn't sound very gay."

Meanwhile the impromptu concert in the trenches went on in tones that were light, gay, and confident. The

TORONTO ASSESSMENT FOR CURRENT YEAR

It Represents a Total of Five Hundred and Eighty-Nine Million Dollars.

SHOWS BIG INCREASE

Property Valuation is Twenty-Four Million Dollars in Excess of Last Year.

The total amount of assessment for the year 1915, as returned by the assessors, was \$589,028,455, and the total amount of assessment for the year 1914, as finally revised, was \$565,300,294, showing an increase in the assessment of the year 1915 of \$23,728,161. This increase is due to the quinquennial assessment of the steam railways, which fell in this year.

The total number of buildings in 1914 was 50,245 and in 1915 57,138, showing an increase of 6,893. The population of the City of Toronto, as returned by the assessors, in 1914 was 470,141 and in 1915 463,705, showing a decrease of 6,436.

The religious census of the City of Toronto, as returned by the assessors, between March 1 and Sept. 1, 1915, is as follows:

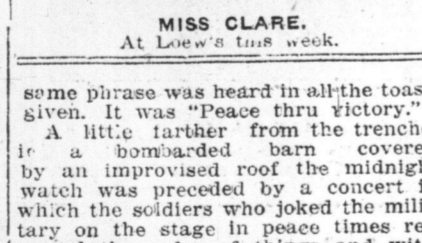
Table with 2 columns: Religion and Number of Members. Includes Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Hebrew, Baptist, Congregational, Salvation Army, Lutheran, Disciples of Christ, Christian Science, Unitarian, and Miscellaneous.

Total 463,705. From Jan. 1 to Dec. 15, 1915, there were 382 transfers of property and for the same period there were 1666 searches made at the registry office.

The valuation of the real property owned by the city, including the property owned by the board of education, revised by the department as of May 1, 1915, is \$4,747,451. In addition to the valuations to the extent of \$1,350,024 have been made in respect of the widenings, extensions, etc., of streets and lanes, making a total of \$43,097,565.

The area of the city is 25,330.4 acres, or 39.55 square miles.

radial bylaw on Jan. 1 will bring about the beginning of a speedy solution to Toronto's urban and suburban transportation problems, and will be like sunshine after rain to the citizens of Toronto, who have long been under the transportation cloud.



MISS CLARE. At Louise's last week.

some phrase was heard in all the troops' salutes. It was "Peace thru victory."

A little farther from the trenches in a bombarded barn covered by an improvised roof the midnight watch was preceded by a concert in which the soldiers who joked the military on the stage in peace times reversed the order of things and with the greatest zest caricatured the civilian behind the zone occupied by the armies.

Two Lines Pass. All along the roads in this region two lines passed in different directions, some with pick, shovel and rifle were going to take their turn in the trenches, while others were going back to the old village church to swell the congregation. Officers, including generals, colonels, captains, and lieutenants with a sprinkling of civilians and many women were in attendance. As in the quarters of the soldiers near the trenches everything in the attitude of the service brought out the same note: "Peace thru victory." A chaplain with the red ribbon of the Legion of Honor on his surplice, who had lost several brothers and has four more in the army, all of whom have been cited in orders of the day, and he himself twice cited for heroic conduct, preached on "Peace thru Victory." A grenadier with a war cross on his breast sang a Christmas anthem to the accompaniment of the modest old organ played by a simple soldier with such a master hand that the strains were quite as inspiring as the best cathedral music. The last note, "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men" died away as the congregation was filing out of the little church, while in the distance the booming of cannon recalled "No truce for Christmas."

SELLERS-GOUGH. The Largest Exclusive Fur House in the British Empire. MAMMOTH FUR SALE STARTS TODAY Tremendous Reductions. JANUARY 30 TO 50% OFF SALE.

Crowds of delighted customers will visit our store today, for today is the first day of the January Sale—the most stupendous fur-buying opportunity Toronto has ever seen.

An Avalanche of Startling Values

- \$75.00 MOLE SETS FOR \$25.00. \$55.00 MINK MUFFS FOR \$32.50. \$300.00 PERSIAN LAMB MUFFS FOR \$19.00. \$18.00 AND \$20.00 SABLE MUFFS FOR \$10.95. \$55.00 NATURAL WOLF SETS FOR \$19.00.



- \$15.00 SIBERIAN WOLF SETS FOR \$8.95. \$300.00 TO \$350.00 PERSIAN LAMB COATS FOR \$225.00. \$225.00 TO \$300.00 HUDSON SEAL COATS FOR \$165.00. \$40.00 TO \$50.00 BLACK WOLF SETS FOR \$29.95. \$40.00 TO \$50.00 BLACK FOX SETS FOR \$23.00. \$40.00 RED FOX SETS FOR \$23.00. \$75.00 TO \$85.00 BLACK FOX SETS FOR \$55.00. \$75.00 TO \$85.00 GRAY LAMB SETS FOR \$67.50. Children's Gray Lamb Large Size Storm Collars and Muffs, made from No. 1 quality skins, best quality linings and finish. Special 6.75.

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MAIL ORDERS. Through the mail, people all over Canada can benefit by this unprecedented sale. Irresistible, wondrously charming furs are available to you at unparalleled prices.

SOCIALISTS OF FRANCE ARE FOR WAR TO KNIFE. National Congress Fully Assured That Allies' Resources Mean Ultimate Victory.

ANOTHER REVOLUTION BREAKS OUT IN CHINA. Government Sends Thirty Thousand Soldiers to Quell Serious Rebellion.

So, formerly military governor of Yunnan, has broken out. The Chinese Government has sent 30,000 soldiers to quell the revolt.