

Weather Forecast for Today

Light to moderate winds, generally fair, not much change in temperature

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VOLUME XIV

NANAIMO, VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1914

NUMBER 250

CITY COUNCIL IN SESSION

Ald Young Would Report on Delegation's Visit to Premier But Council Thought Silence Was Best Policy.

The City Council met in regular session last evening, the full Board being present, Ald. Busby acting Mayor in the absence of Mayor Planta.

A communication was received from Mr. Thomas Mawhinney, requesting the drain in front of his residence be cleaned and flushed, the request being referred to the Sewer Committee for action, on motion of Ald. Forrester, seconded by Ald. Crossan.

A communication was received from Mr. William Sykes stating some months ago residents of the Lambert subdivision had petitioned the Council for a water service but had received no answer of any kind to their request.

Ald. Ferguson moved, seconded by Ald. McKinnell the matter be referred to the Water Committee for report.

Ald. Young, chairman of the Water Works committee remarked that the committee had taken the necessary action. The committee provided a report, but the Council did not see its way clear to go to the necessary expense at the time and he thought they had not found any money since. Lack of funds was the big trouble.

Ald. Forrester remarked he understood the parties were willing to dig and fill in the ditch and all the city had to do was to provide the pieces of which a stock was on hand.

Ald. Ferguson stated the Council had as yet received no report from the Committee and he thought it about time the committee either complied with the request or turned it down.

City Engineer Owen reported an expenditure in wages during the past week of \$466.00 on streets, and \$36.95 on waterworks. On motion of Ald. McKinnell, seconded by Ald. McKinnell, the report was received and filed.

Ald. Young remarked it might be advisable to give some report of the delegation's visit to Victoria. The speaker and Ald. Ferguson went to Victoria with the delegation and spent a profitable hour and a half with the Premier. The matter of furnishing relief work to Nanaimo unemployed was discussed in every detail and the delegation came away satisfied that the Premier was doing his best to meet the situation. The Premier had some proposals to lay before the executive the following morning and he asked the delegation not to make anything public until after he had met the executive. But he told us that—

At this point in Ald. Young's remarks Ald. Forrester interrupted, expressing the belief the delegation should not make anything public until the Premier was agreeable.

Ald. Ferguson remarked the report was already public, but at the same time he felt that the delegation should not divulge anything until word had been received from the executive. At the same time if a meeting of the unemployed was called this week he was going to attend, and he was not going to be bound by Pettigrew, Foster and his bunch. Foster told them if they were not getting what they wanted to come to him and he would see they got it. Personally he felt if any relief was to be distributed the Council should be the one to do it.

Ald. Cavalsky was of the opinion if any relief came from the government it would come through the City Council and if Ald's Young and Ferguson had any report to make they should make it to the Council which appointed them.

Acting Mayor Busby remarked the Council was quite capable of looking after its own affairs. Council then adjourned.

SWEPT BY A COLD WAVE

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—The cold wave which gripped the country today, causing record breaking temperatures at many northern points from Mississippi river to the Atlantic coast, was moderating tonight and gradually rising temperatures were predicted for tomorrow. Fair weather was predicted everywhere with the exception of snow flurries in the great lakes states and rain on the Pacific slope.

TURKS MASSACRE CHRISTIAN ARMENIANS

Petrograd, Dec. 28.—The Turks have been driven from Transtohovoch by the Russian Black Sea fleet. The fleet bombarded the shore where the Turkish forces had concentrated and caused them to flee.

The Turks in the village of Erzerum are almost entirely officered by Germans and the population is fleeing in anticipation of a Russian advance.

Fugitives from Buhkara report that town the Turkish officers ordered the soldiers to kill the native Armenians. Then followed the most terrible atrocities. The Turks hurled christian Armenians from the windows and had no mercy on women or children or old men, slaughtered all indiscriminately. Only thirty escaped the butchery.

MAY BE CONTEST FOR MAYORALTY

Rumor Busy With Name of Ex Mayor Hodgson as Probable Opponent of Mayor Planta in City Election.

The time is fast drawing nigh for the municipal elections and after New Year is ushered in Nanaimo citizens will be lining up their candidates for the battle of the ballots on the 11th of January.

Although there is not much municipal politics discussed these days there is almost sure to be a contest in every ward, as all members of the present Council are seeking re-election and rumor is already busy with the names of a number of public spirited citizens, who it is stated, are seeking honors at the polls.

It is rumored that ex-Mayor T. Hodgson is going to contest the Mayoralty with Mayor Planta and in the North Ward, the names of ex-Mayor Shaw, John W. Coburn, and James Knight are mentioned as probable Aldermanic candidates.

In the Middle Ward the present incumbents will likely have as opponents Messrs Mat Storey, J. Meakin and M. G. Clarke, while in the South Ward it is stated that ex-Alderman Wilson and McRae and Mr. J. Sharp will contest the election with Ald. Young Cavalsky and Ferguson.

The number of votes in the forthcoming election is much smaller than last year, the total on this year's list being 1165.

Those entitled to vote in the South Ward are as follows:
1 Addison, W. R.
2 Adams, James
3 Adam, James

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PLEASANT CHRISTMAS PARTY.

An interesting and remarkable Xmas gathering was held at the home of Mr. J. Hendry, Vancouver Ave., Newcastle Townsite, Christmas day, when Mrs. J. Hendry had the unique pleasure of having all surviving members of her family and their families gathered together at one time, all being at present located in Nanaimo. A sumptuous dinner, appropriate to the festive season, was duly served and heartily appreciated by all. The afternoon and evening were fully occupied in social capacity, a feature of the gathering being the massive Christmas tree, the fruits of which were duly distributed to the young folks by his highness Santa Claus, who attended in person, affording much delight to all.

Members of the family present were: Mrs. J. Hendry and daughters Isabel, Margaret, Sarah and son, William, also Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kerr and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Vance, Mr. and Mrs. John Shirras, Mr. and Mrs. John Dickie and family. A few friends of the family were also present, and altogether an interesting and happy time was spent.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S BIRTHDAY

Washington, Dec. 28.—President Wilson began receiving messages tonight from officials of foreign countries, congratulating him on his fifty eighth birthday anniversary. The first to arrive were from King George of Great Britain and President Cabrera of Guatemala.

IS NO ROOM FOR CRITICISM

British War and Admiralty Offices Handling The Problems of War in a Most Efficient Manner.

London, Dec. 28.—Criticism of the government's war preparations which was heard during the early stages of the war has largely ceased, indicating that the general public has either settled down to the belief that everything is being done about as well as possible, or has tired of writing letters to the press.

The war office has now enlisted the services of business men with experience in carrying out big enterprises to take part in the work of supplying the army and the labor unions have volunteered to watch the execution of government contracts, not only to see that proper equipment and rations are supplied to the soldiers, but to prevent "sweating."

Arnold White, a prominent writer and former colonial official, has been making a thorough inspection of the training camps for the purpose of detecting any scandals or mismanagement. Having been a bitter enemy of the Liberal government his point of view was not prejudiced in its favor, he writes:

"Having visited 36 camps in various parts of the country, I am thoroughly cheered. In the majority of cases, business men are handling the problems of war. People living inland have no conception of the thoroughness, efficiency and silence with which the war office and the admiralty have co-operated for the business of preventing a German raid or invasion.

"The alarm that is still felt in some parts of these islands is wholly unjustified, because, first, the efficiency of the fleet under Jellicoe has increased since the war began, and second, because the practical measures adopted by our military engineers, if generally known, would enable the timid to sleep quietly in their beds. If I were out to pick holes in our administration it would not be the general management of the war."

GENERAL HUGHES ORDERS AN INQUIRY

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Major General Sam Hughes, minister of militia, ordered today an immediate inquiry into the shooting of two American duck hunters at Fort Erie by Canadian guards.

"I greatly regret the occurrence and will have a thorough investigation," said General Hughes.

Considerable nervousness has been caused along the border by reports of raids and stories that dynamiters have planned to blow up public property in Canada. Since the opening of the European war the international boundary has been strongly patrolled by military guards who have orders to detain for examination all suspicious persons.

MASQUERADE BALL NEW YEARS NIGHT

Nanaimo Temple of Pythian Sisters has completed preparations for its Masquerade Ball on New Year's night in the Oddfellows' Hall.

Pawlett's five-piece orchestra will be in attendance, the charges being gent maskers \$1, lady maskers 25c, spectators, 25c. Non-maskers dancing after midnight 50c, supper 25c.

The following prize list will be awarded:

Best Dressed Lady (in masquerade costume)	\$7.50
Best Dressed Gent	7.50
Best Original Character	2.0
Best National Character	2.50
Best Flower Girl	2.50
Best Comic Group (4 or over) ..	8.00
Best Cake Walk (25c to enter) ..	3.00
Prize Waltz (25c to enter)	2.00

According to the list published in Sunday's News Advertiser, of the McGill Christmas examinations, Mr. Leo Maher, of this city, passed among the first six of class 3 in his second year's art course.



Major-General Sam B. Steele, newly appointed Inspector-General of the forces in Western Canada. Major Steele yesterday at Winnipeg inspected 8000 Western Canadian troops.

WESTERN VOLUNTEERS PASSED IN REVIEW

Winnipeg, Dec. 28.—Six thousand men of western Canada marched past in review before Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada, this afternoon and gained from him the high praise he bestowed in speaking of them as a magnificent body of men. Every man comes from M. D. 10, and especially noticeable was the fine appearance of the soldiers. The march past which took forty minutes to go by the saluting base, and composed of the second and third contingents from the west and only such men and officers have volunteered took their place in the ranks. At the base with the Premier was General Steele, while among the guests were Hon. Robert Rogers, Sir Rodmond Roblin and Sir Douglas Cameron, with other prominent persons.

WAS FIERCEST OF THE MONTH

Christmas Day Fighting Between Allies and Germans Resulted in Many Thousands of Wounded on Both Sides.

London, Dec. 28.—The battle line in the east and west has undergone only small changes in the last day. The French and German reports agree that the Germans have captured a section of trenches near Hollebeke, south of Ypres.

The French assert that the Germans gave up trenches on the first line to the extent of about 800 or 900 yards in the Lens region, further east while unsuccessful demonstrations have been made from both sides at various points along the extended lines.

The reports of the numbers of wounded both armies are sending back from the lines in Belgium appear to show that the fighting on Christmas day in that country was the fiercest of the last month. Correspondents in the rear say the Belgians, as a result of five days sap-ping, captured nearly 3,000 Germans with only small losses to themselves.

According to the Russian reports, the German attempts to capture War saw have failed, while the Berlin official statement says there is a general confidence that the German and Austrian forces are making progress along the great front.

English newspapers are enthusiastic over the raid by their cruisers and seaplanes on Cuxhaven. They decline to accept without reservation the statement that ships at Cuxhaven and the gas works were hit by bombs but that no damage was done, and consider this improbable.

The naval writers dilate and speculate lavishly upon "the most remarkable engagement of twentieth century warfare."

They conclude that the German ships feared to come forth and give battle to the British cruisers because of the uncertainty as to whether the British battleships were lurking behind them.

The fact that the Zeppelins were driven off is taken by some as evidence that the Zeppelins are really trustworthy craft. Others think it means that the Germans are hush-banding all their dirigibles for a grand raid on England.

(Continued on Page 2.)

RUSSIA IS ON THE OFFENSIVE

German Attacks Everywhere Repulsed by Russian Arms—Germans and Austrians in Retreat—Austrian Move a Failure.

Petrograd, Dec. 28.—The following statement from the general staff of the Russian commander-in-chief, was issued tonight:

"On December 27 there was no important engagement between the lower Vistula and the Pilica. The German attacks were everywhere repulsed. The Germans suffered heavy losses, especially during a vain attack they made to the southeast of Skiernewice.

"Between the Pilica and the upper Vistula, the enemy has now adopted the defensive.

"Our troops stormed the village of Szyni, which was stubbornly defended by the Austrians. The enemy has definitely evacuated the left bank of the Nida.

"To the south of the Upper Vistula, on the front of Opatow-Biecz, the fighting continues to develop to our advantage. From the 18th to the 26th we captured their two hundred officers and 15,000 soldiers and forty mitrailleurs.

"The enemy's retreat in the region of the Dukla pass and the road of Lisko is becoming more and more precipitate and disorganized. On the 26th we captured in this region as many as five thousand prisoners.

"The efforts of the enemy to transport his forces from the vicinity of Czenstochowa toward the Carpathians was a complete failure owing to our manoeuvres.

London, Dec. 29.—A Petrograd dispatch to the "Times" says that military circles point out that all the important passages of the Carpathians are again in the hands of the Russians and that those still held by the enemy afford them no advantage.

The Nanaimo Musical Club will hold its annual Christmas fixture this evening in the Presbyterian Church when it will render Handel's "Messiah." The Club has a membership of 60 voices which will be ably assisted by a full orchestra (Madame Carapata, 1st Violinist, leader), Mrs. H. McIndoe, organist and Mr. Andrew Dunsmore, pianist. Mr. F. W. Dyke, of Vancouver, who has for so many years been the devoted conductor of the Musical Club will be in that capacity this evening. The soloists will be Mrs. Macdonald Fahey, of Victoria, soprano; Miss Eileen Maguire, (Vancouver), contralto; Mr. Herbert Cave, (Vancouver), tenor, and Mr. Frederick Taggart, (Vancouver), baritone.

The Musical Club is making a special effort to give "The Messiah" despite the fact there has been an abundance of concerts for the members feel they cannot let the Christmas season pass without giving this beautiful Oratorio and they ask for the assistance of the music-loving people of the city by a full house tonight. Tickets are only 25 cents and can be had from any member of the club or at the door.

CITIZENS WARNED TO KEEP UNDER COVER

London, Dec. 28.—The London official news bureau this evening made the following announcement:

"The naval and military authorities call the attention of persons using the streets to the danger from fragments of shells from bullets from the guns used against hostile aircraft attempting to raid London.

"The civil population are warned to keep under cover preferably in basements upon hearing the sound of firing of guns or of explosives."

CANADIAN GUNNER WOUNDED

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Gunner A. Bissonette, of the Canadian heavy battery and ammunition column at Salisbury Plain, is officially announced as ill from a gun shot wound in the chest. His condition is reported as favorable. He was injured by an accident but how it occurred is not reported.

CAPTURED BY FINE PIECE OF STRATEGY

Paris, Dec. 28.—Describing the capture of a line of trenches in the north, a non-commissioned officer writes home of an unusual piece of strategy.

"The evening before there had been a heavy fall of snow," he said, "and the bright moonlight showed up every object with extraordinary clearness against the white background. The 126th regiment which had planned a raid on the enemy's trenches only twenty yards away, found the project compromised, but a corporal was struck by a brilliant idea, every man pulled off his outer clothes and pulled his shirt on over jacket and vest, thus they crept through the snow up to the edge of the German trench without being seen and carried the entire line."

UNITED STATES SENDS PROTEST

American Government Dispatched Note to Britain Insisting Upon Improvement in Treatment of American Commerce.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The United States government dispatched today a long note to Great Britain, insisting on an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet. It gave warning that much feeling had been aroused in this country, and that public criticism and general unwarranted interference with the legitimate foreign trade of the United States.

The document, constituting the strongest representation on this subject made to any belligerents by the United States since the outbreak of the war was cabled to ambassador Page to be formally presented to Sir Edward Grey, British foreign secretary. Its preparation was begun a month ago by Secretary Bryan and his assistants and finally had the personal attention of President Wilson, who revised the phraseology with great care.

As the detailed point of view of the United States in numerous specific cases of detentions and seizures of cargoes had been set forth in a series of emphatic protests, most of them have gone unheeded, today's communication was couched in general terms, covering the entire subject of the relations between the United States and Great Britain as affected by the latter's naval policy, considered highly objectionable by this government. Since France has adopted practically the same degree on contraband as has Great Britain today's note is virtually a statement intended for all members of the triple entente.

The note declares at the outset that the representations are made in friendly spirit, but that the United States considers it best to speak in terms of frankness, lest silence be construed as an acquiescence in a policy which infringed the rights of American citizens under the laws of nations.

PLANS RAID INTO BRITISH COLUMBIA

New Westminster, Dec. 28.—That Germans in Seattle are planning a raid into British Columbia is the statement tonight of Mr. C. A. Sturart Wade, secretary of the New Westminster Board of Trade who arrived from Seattle tonight. Mr. Wade declared that prominent Germans there told him they knew their compatriots were assembling in the smaller towns in Washington state and were proposing to dynamite the railways into Canada, thus leaving Vancouver and other towns on the Mainland at the mercy of the invaders. Mr. Wade refused to give the names of the Germans upon whose authority he bases his statement.

Montreal, Dec. 28.—The German scare reached Vice-President Borden of the C.P.R. in the form of a telegraphic inquiry from the New York Times this afternoon, as follows: "We are receiving information from

PARIS PREPARED FOR INVASION

Army of Excavators Have Completed Their Work of Digging Entrenchments Around French Capital—Forts Strengthened.

Paris, Dec. 28.—The army of excavators, who, early in September began to dig Paris in when a German siege was threatened, have completed their work.

The general confederation of workers alone sent five thousand volunteers who provided their own digging tools and were merrily recompensed by a daily ration of food. Thousands of Belgian refugees hurried from their own land have also assisted in the work.

The city now lies in the centre of an entrenched camp whose diameter is about sixty miles and whose circumference is nearly two hundred miles. This is surrounded by trenches thoroughly covered with logs and turf through which loop holes have been left for rifle fire. All of them communicate with each other and contain traverse banks of earth to prevent them being enflamed by infantry or machine gun fire. Out beyond them are rifle pits and barbed wire entanglements placed in all positions where an attack might originate.

Still other precautions have been taken in front of the advanced line of trenches by digging of deep ditches whose existence has been a light covering of branches and turf making them invisible to approaching cavalry, infantry or artillery and forming veritable traps into which an attacking force might fall a prey to the defenders' machine guns and rifles.

Approaches to the trenches from the rear consist of subterranean galleries.

All along this front posts of observation have been established, each of which is constantly occupied by at least three men provided with powerful field glasses and in direct telephonic communication with headquarters and with the artillery batteries are known only to the headquarters staff, and to the men who serve the guns, all of which are buried in the earth, only their muzzles showing. For the benefit of the gunners the ranges of all prominent objects in the front have been measured.

Behind the lines of trenches runs a light railroad line for the purpose of bringing up ammunition and food and also, if necessary reinforcements of men to any point which might be menaced. Further provision for the conveyance of reinforcements is at hand in the large number of automobiles of all kinds which can make the journey speedily from any point to another, carrying groups of armed men.

The existing forts also have been strengthened but to only serve as supporting points and depots for large bodies of troops resting from their trench duties.

BODY THROUGH MAIL

Boston, Mass., Dec. 28.—The parcel post was called on today to convey the ashes of Tefiro Hasagawa, a Japanese artist, to his former home near Tokio, Japan. The package started on its way with \$1.10 in stamps attached.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 28.—Two men were killed and seven were severely hurt today by the collapse of a wooden canopy built to protect pedestrians passing a hotel building under construction at Baltimore avenue and Twelfth street.

The quarterly meeting of Court Nanaimo Foresters Home will be held tonight at 7:30. Business, election of officers and revision of by-laws.

widely scattered points in California that there is a movement of Germans in civilian clothing northward, the object being to raid Vancouver and Canadian Pacific Railway communication to keep Canadians at home. Have you anything to say?"

Mr. Bosworth had something to say. It was this: "We have fine scenery all along the line of the Canadian Pacific, and can reserve a seat ten thousand feet high for the solitary meditations of any German raiders who come across the international boundary."—G.M. Bosworth.