

HEWED THEIR WAY FOR MILES IN DENSE AFRICAN JUNGLES

Belated Report of East African Expedition Gives Graphic Account of the Difficulties Encountered by Force Under General Vanderventer in Operations Against the Germans—Marched Many Miles Without Any Appreciable Gain.

Enemy Had Bribe the Native Chiefs With Goods Stolen from the Portuguese, so That Allies Were Misled by False Reports—Hard to Maintain Communication Between the Different Columns as Wireless Was an Uncertain Quantity in the Thick Bush.

London, Dec. 17.—A despatch from General Sir G. L. Vanderventer, commander in chief of the Allied forces in East Africa, and dated Dar El Salaam, September 30, has just been published. It graphically describes the tremendous difficulties of campaigning in East Africa, and says it may appear extraordinary that Col. von Lettow von Beck's force should so often have succeeded in evading the Anglo-Portuguese columns. The report says that the Germans were well guided and generally avoided the regular paths and moved by native paths through the heart of the bush, which paths were often so thick and difficult that the troops might march and counter-march within a few miles of one another without gaining much. There were over one hundred thousand square miles of such bush between the Rovuma and the Zambesi rivers. Some idea of the heavy obstacles encountered is shown in the fact that the troops often had to force their way through such thick jungle that the roads were mere tunnels through bamboo thickets and elephant grass. Long stretches of track appeared more suitable for boats than motor transports.

NORTHLAND AND GRAMPIAN ARE BRINGING CANADIAN TROOPS

Both Are Due in This City About December 23rd—The Grampian to Come to St. John With About One Thousand Troops—Northland Has About the Same Number.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—The militia department has received word that two more vessels carrying Canadian troops left England on the 15th. They are the Northland, with 24 officers, 955 other ranks, and 75 civilians on board, and the Grampian, carrying 110 officers and 1,000 other ranks. The Northland will, it is expected, dock at Halifax on or about the 23rd, and the Grampian at St. John the same day. The classification by military districts of those on board the Northland is as follows: Other Civil Military District Officers Ranks Total No. 1. 57 9 66 No. 2. 210 20 230 No. 3. 97 6 103 No. 4. 16 5 21 No. 5. 1 16 17 No. 6. 65 9 74 No. 7. 34 32 66 Totals 110 83 193

HARD WORK TO MAKE OBJECTIVE FOR NAVY LEAGUE

Nova Scotia Making Strenuous Efforts to Raise Its Quota of One Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Dec. 17.—The campaign for one hundred thousand dollars for the Navy League in Nova Scotia has been one of the most uphill drives of any in the long series of these efforts. Halifax was to have raised 100,000 of this at the end of last week, but the time was extended for two days of this week, and now it is to go a little longer in the hope of getting the full amount. The same condition has prevailed over the province. Pictou town has passed its objective, but New Glasgow will not finish up before Saturday next. The committee hope, however, that Nova Scotia's quota will be secured. If it is not reached it will be one of the very few times in which failure has occurred.

The city Board of Control was called on today and asked for a minimum of \$5,000. The mayor was favorably disposed, but he said he thought the government should attend to such matters and not charitably disposed people. Finally the Board agreed to give \$5,000 and the extra \$2,000 if it was found at the end really to be needed. "Yes," said the Mayor, "but put it on the tax bill and let the citizens know what they are paying for. He thought the tax bill should be itemized so that the citizens could see at a glance just what departments the money was needed for. Citizens would be better satisfied if they got the itemized bill, something like the loose leaf system." It was suggested that would require a very large staff.

"No it would not," said the Mayor. "None of the present staff of officials are so overworked that they could not do more, with the exception of, perhaps, myself." The item will be placed on next year's tax bills.

COMMITTED ON CHARGE OF THEFT

Capt. Fisher Must Stand Trial for Stealing Army Funds.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—On a charge of stealing \$18,547.23 the property of the Dominion of Canada, Captain Charles F. Fisher, former paymaster of the A. M. C. in Toronto military district, was committed for trial at the local police court today without plea or election. His counsel T. C. Robbete, K. C., contends that the alleged discrepancy was due entirely to errors arising out of the carrying and paying of large sums in cash, and that more than \$10,000 of the total mentioned has been discovered and paid back to the government.

TORONTO POLICE ARE ON STRIKE

Demand Re-instatement of Twelve Men Dismissed Yesterday and Re-hearing in Case of Constable Ellis.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—At a meeting which began at midnight the police of this city voted to strike. The vote was almost unanimous and the strike is to begin at 6:45 this morning. In addition to the strike decision a resolution was passed demanding the reinstatement of the twelve policemen dismissed by the commissioners yesterday and a rehearing of the case of Police Constable Ellis, who was discharged a short time ago, presumably because of his activity in the police union organization.

ENGLISH FOR SASKATCHEWAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regina, Dec. 17.—Premier Martin this afternoon introduced an amendment to the school act, providing that English only be taught in the schools with the exception of some provision for the teaching of French.

FIFTEEN PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH IN FIRE WHICH DESTROYED TOURIST CAR ON THE C.P.R. EASTBOUND EXPRESS WINNIPEG TO TORONTO

MONCTON HAS ITS HOUSING PROBLEM TOO

City is Asked to Guarantee \$170,000 Bonds for Erection of Forty Houses.

NATURAL GAS A BURNING QUESTION

Big Consumers Will Enter Protest Today Before Public Utilities Board.

FLU IS EPIDEMIC IN SOME PLACES

Sunny Brae Goes Under the Ban Again and Shediac Parish Has Reason to Worry.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Dec. 17.—A proposal for the erection of forty houses in the city of Moncton to relieve the housing problem was laid before the city council tonight by the West End Building Committee. The scheme is to float bonds to cover the cost of construction and have the city guarantee the bonds and appoint a trustee to hold a mortgage on the property, the life of the bonds to be fifteen years. The amount it is proposed to raise in this way is \$170,000.

The proposition as submitted by the West End Building Co. was referred to the finance committee without the council committing itself in any way or the other. The natural gas problem has apparently not yet been settled by the order made by the finance committee, unless ordering all consumers using two million cubic feet of gas per month to discontinue the use of gas after November 27, and the Albert Manufacturing Co. of two of the heavy consumers affected by the order. It is stated, content that under the order they are allowed to use up to two million cubic feet a month. The city council tonight appointed a delegation to go to St. John to appear before the Utilities Commission to look after the city's interests in this regard. The C. G. R. and Albert Manufacturing Co., it is understood, will also be represented at the meeting of the commission.

FIELD MARSHAL HAIG AT COLOGNE

Says Good-bye to Newspaper Correspondents and Expresses Thanks for Their Labors.

Cologne, Monday, Dec. 16. (By The Associated Press.)—Field Marshal Haig came to Cologne this morning to make his initial tour of inspection of the territory occupied by the British along the Rhine. Immediately on his arrival the British commander-in-chief proceeded to the famous Hohenzollern bridge for a meeting with more than a score of war correspondents representing all the great newspapers of the Allied and neutral countries. The occasion was in the nature of a farewell to the writers who have been accredited to British general headquarters and who finished their labors when the British completed their occupation of the territory assigned to them under the armistice.

BOLSHEVIKS ARE BUSY DOWN SOUTH

Montevideo, Uruguay, Dec. 17.—There has been a steady increase in Bolshevik agitation in Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina in the last two months and it is reported that councils have been formed by workmen in co-operation with the police. At Rosario, Argentina, a council of this nature has called a strike.

Among the List of Names of Those Who Perished Appear Several Men and Women Who Were Ticketed Through to Sussex and to St. John—All the Victims Have Not Yet Been Identified.

It is believed that the fire, which broke out while the train was standing awaiting orders at Bonheur Station, was caused by a man in an upper berth lighting a match which ignited the curtains—doors were forced and train crew did all possible to rescue other passengers.

Winnipeg, Dec. 17.—Fifteen are missing, believed burned to death, as a result of the destruction by fire, early this morning, of a tourist coach on the C. P. R. Transcontinental train at Bonheur Station, 150 miles west of Port William, Ont. Six passengers among the missing are still unidentified, but it is believed that the unidentified women and little boys are the wife and son of C. Foot, ticketed from Regina, Sask., to Albion, Mich. Advice received here indicates that the fire started through carelessness in handling a spirit stove or other light in a berth occupied by an unidentified man with his wife and small baby. Within a few seconds the flames swept along the berth curtains, making the car a fire trap. Eight passengers were rescued from the car uninjured, and four injured, though none seriously. The injured have been taken to Port William and their condition is said to be improving.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 17.—As a result of the destruction by fire of a tourist coach on the C. P. R. Transcontinental train at Bonheur Station, 150 miles west of Port William, Ont., fifteen persons are missing and several sustained minor injuries. The work of establishing the identity of the missing passengers is proceeding, but some time must pass before a reliable list can be compiled. When the fire was discovered by the train men, the train was being held for orders at Bonheur station. The crew lost no time in forcing an entrance into the coach. Although the flames gained great headway, and the work was attended with much danger, they succeeded in rescuing a number of the passengers. The origin of the fire has not definitely been determined, but it is believed that it started in an upper berth, occupied by a man, his wife and baby, presumably a match was struck for some purpose, and the curtains caught fire. A thorough investigation is being made by the Canadian Pacific officials. Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 17.—A report received here this afternoon states that Mrs. J. Henderson, Winnipeg, Ont., was injured or uninjured.

Soldiers Must Travel on Regular Troop Trains, Not With Relatives

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 17.—The military department desires to inform the public that a very considerable number of people have arrived at Halifax from various points for the purpose of meeting returning soldiers and appear to expect that their relatives will be allowed to accompany them on the regular trains out of Halifax. It is pointed out that soldiers whose families have accompanied them across the ocean are permitted to travel with their families on civilian trains, but all other soldiers will be required to travel on the regular troop trains. The railway arrangements are difficult, and they do not contemplate that an undetermined number of soldiers will proceed on civilian trains, and accommodation is not provided with that end in view. On the other hand arrangements with respect to troop trains, including provision of meals, are made on the basis of a definite number allotted to each train. In view of the number of ships arriving from now on in succession at the port of Halifax, arrangements respecting disembarkation and entrapment must be adhered to strictly, and it is desired that civilians should clearly understand that these arrangements cannot be disturbed by reason of their presence in Halifax. Soldiers must travel on troop trains provided, and will not be permitted to accompany their relatives on other trains.

GIRL NAWAJO HERE IN CHATHAM JAIL

Charged With Serious Offence by Soldier on Duty in This City.

Special to The Standard. Chatham, Dec. 17.—A young woman is in the lockup here, having been arrested on complaint of a Chatham soldier in St. John. An officer from St. John was here several days ago in search for her but had to depart without accomplishing his mission. Chief Coughlan arrested the girl, who claims to be not yet sixteen, in a lumber camp at Bartlettogue some nine miles in the woods from this place, where the family is engaged in lumbering.

MANY DIED FROM FLU EPIDEMIC

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 17.—Two thousand Navajo Indians, residing on that part of the reservation in Apache county, under the jurisdiction of Fort

Winnipeg, Dec. 17.—Fifteen persons are missing, believed burned to death, as a result of the destruction by fire of a C. P. R. tourist coach this morning. A list of the lost, so far as can be ascertained, follows: F. B. Clancy, ticketed from Calgary to Windsor.

Mrs. C. L. Hanier, ticketed from Regina to St. John. Miss E. Smith, ticketed from Leekwood to Toronto. Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Monkman and baby, ticketed from Toronto to Toronto, supposed to be from Consort, Alberta. Mrs. Jos. Cochrane, ticketed from Russell, Man., to Baxter, N.S. Private Larmouth, Fifth Battalion, Quebec, ticketed from Winnipeg to Trochu, Ont. Woman and little boy, ticketed from Winnipeg to Belleville, Ont. Two unidentified passengers, from Regina to Belleville, Ont. Woman, ticketed from Winnipeg to Oleva. Woman, ticketed from Regina to Assiniboia, Sask. The injured, none of whom is in a serious condition, are: Miss Crossman, Gurnsey, Sask., to Kitchener, Ont. C. P. Poole, Regina to Albion, Mich. C. L. Buchanan, Greenwood, Man., to Sussex, N.B. C. L. Hunter, Regina to St. John, N.B.

The following were rescued, uninjured: Jacob Mitchell, Sismanov, Sask., to Windsor, Ont. J. H. Breaker, Melita, Man., to Thornhill, Ont. E. S. Kilgour, wife and baby, Winnipeg to Sussex, N.B. Thos. Davidson, Summer Cove, Sask., to Harrison, Ont. H. Henderson, Winnipeg to Toronto.

Note—A correction to the above adds to the list the name of Mrs. C. L. Buchanan, ticketed from Greenwood, Man., to Sussex, N.B., but does not state whether Mrs. Buchanan is dead, injured or uninjured.

AMERICAN FLEET WILL REACH HOME DEC. 24

Big Parade Planned in New York to Celebrate Their Return.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The American fleet returning from Europe which is to be reviewed at sea by Secretary Daniels, is expected to arrive at Ambrose Light vessel at daylight on Tuesday, December 24. The navy department announced tonight that the ships will pass the Statue of Liberty about 9 a. m. and will then anchor in the north river from 56th street to Fort Washington. In the afternoon men from the fleet will parade down Broadway from 96th to 23rd street, then down Fifth avenue to 23rd street. The parade is expected to start moving at 1:30 o'clock. The department announced that as the parade will occur on Christmas Eve, general leave of absence will be granted to both officers and men immediately after their conclusion. The fleet will probably remain at New York until January 8.

FIRE IN EDSON.

Edson, Sask., Dec. 17.—Fire of unknown origin wiped out an entire block in the heart of Edson, Alberta, five stores are a total loss. Loss unknown.

KEEP TO THEIR BEDS DAY AND NIGHT TO ESCAPE FREEZING

Graphic Picture of the Situation in Russia is Given in Despatch to Washington—No Food Supplies Have Reached Petrograd for the Past Two Weeks and Great Numbers Are Dying Daily from Starvation.

Bolsheviks Are Gaining in Strength Through Control of the Scant Food Supplies—Many Refugees Are Seeking Succor in Sweden, While Soviet Government is Trying to Control the Influx of Desperate Prisoners Now Being Released by Germany.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Gloomy reports of the situation in Russia, particularly at Petrograd, continue to reach the state department. A despatch today announced that the Soviet government has restricted the influx of hungry and destitute prisoners returning from German and Austrian prison camps without officers or guards. The condition of middle classes in Petrograd is said to be extremely bad, and great numbers are dying daily of starvation. No fuel is available and the people are obliged to keep to their beds day and night. No supplies have reached the city for more than two weeks.

GERMANS REACHING BERLIN AT RATE OF 10,000 A DAY

Scenes of Enthusiasm at Return Ending—City Has Gone Dancing Mad and Cabarets Are Filled All the Time They Are Open.

London, Dec. 17.—(By Wireless Service)—The correspondent in Berlin of the Daily Express, dealing with the return of the German army, says the scenes of enthusiasm marking the home-coming of the troops are ending. "Men have been coming home at the rate of ten thousand a day," says the correspondent. "Every day Herr Ebert (the chancellor) takes his place on the balcony opposite the French embassy. He addresses the home-coming men, and the bands play martial airs, while the crowds cheer and wave their handkerchiefs. "Deutsches Ufer Alter" brought me into the street. To my amazement—and to the apparent amazement of the French officers grouped in the window of the Embassy—a regiment was passing the Brandenburg gate to the old tune. Later I heard it played continuously as the cavalry, infantry and artillery swept by. Regimental flags were crowned with wreaths. The men wore evergreens around their steel helmets, and the tunics and gowns were covered with flowers. "What particularly struck me was the attitude of the home-coming officers. These I have seen in the Berlin garrison were quiet men, many of whom had removed their marks of rank. They were saluted by their men. On the other hand the troops just returned from the front are well disciplined and salute as of old. The officers themselves are unchanged. They exhibit themselves, moped and tight waisted, to the population who cheer them heartily. "Berlin is dancing mad. There are about fifty cabarets in the city, and dancing goes on all the afternoon and until nine o'clock at night. In a hotel, who cheer them heartily. "Berlin is dancing mad. There are about fifty cabarets in the city, and dancing goes on all the afternoon and until nine o'clock at night. In a hotel, who cheer them heartily. "Berlin is dancing mad. There are about fifty cabarets in the city, and dancing goes on all the afternoon and until nine o'clock at night. In a hotel, who cheer them heartily.

SCHOOLS ORDERED TO CLOSE TODAY

Health Ban at the Capital Now Made to Include All Places Where Persons Congregate.

Fredericton, Dec. 17.—Caterers to the amusement seeking public are beginning to make arrangements to draw the blime on their places of business at midnight tomorrow, in keeping with the order of the Board of Health, which has placed its ban on all public gatherings, effective on Thursday. Coming just at the season of the year when busy shoppers like to rest a few minutes at a motion picture house, and tired business men look for a few minutes of relaxation at the bowling alley or the billiard table, it means some considerable loss to the managers of the various amusement enterprises. All are now included in the ban, and no special rules are to be made in favor of any one. "There is nothing for the managers to do but submit cheerfully to the order, and trust it will not be necessary to keep the ban long in force. There is a feeling, however, that the period of "shut down" should extend over a greater stretch of time than the previous one. Many venture the opinion that had the previous ban been kept in force two weeks longer the epidemic would have been eradicated. It is the intention of the health authorities to have the disease entirely subjugated this time, before any ban is lifted.

BRITISH WARMLY RECEIVED AT REVAL

New Republic Decorates Itself to Welcome the Fleet.

London, Dec. 17.—The Estonian delegation in Stockholm has received a despatch from the foreign minister of the new Estonian republic, saying that the British squadron on its way to Reval was met at sea by representatives of the government and on its entrance into Reval it was enthusiastically welcomed by the population. Reval was gaily decorated for the occasion, and the men of the squadron were cheered wherever they went.

COMMONWEALTH FOR HEBREWS IN PALESTINE

Jewish Congress at Philadelphia Favors Idea With Great Britain as Trustee.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 17.—The American Jewish congress tonight declared for a Jewish commonwealth in Palestine under the trustee of Great Britain acting on behalf of such league of nations as may be formed. The declaration in the form of a resolution was adopted amid wild enthusiasm. The 400 delegates representing more than 6,000,000 members of their race in the United States rose and sang Hatikvah, the Jewish anthem expressing the hope that Palestine shall soon be the homeland of the Jews. Another resolution was adopted that the congress shall elect a delegation of not more than seven members who shall leave as soon as possible for Europe, where "in co-operation with the representatives of the Jews of other lands, it shall use its best endeavors to realize the objects for which this congress was established, in accordance with instructions formulated by this congress." The delegation is instructed to render a report to the congress when its labors in Europe are completed, and the president of the congress is instructed to summon that body to receive a report of the delegation not later than one year after the treaty of peace shall have been signed and to transact such other business as may come before it.

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