

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XIV, No. 84. ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1918. TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

Canadians At Lens
In Successful Raids

Over the Top Early This Morning; Enemy In Our Advanced Posts Last Night But Soon Dislodged; French Win Victory

London, Jan. 9.—At dusk last evening the enemy succeeded in entering two of our advanced posts north of the Ypres-Staden railway but was immediately ejected by a local counter-attack. The war office so reports. "Early this morning Canadian troops carried out a successful raid south of Lens, capturing two machine guns."

NO NECESSITY FOR PESSIMISM

Military Attache at Washington Speaks of West Front

THE FIGHTING AT CAMBRAI

German Claims Answered by Statement of Facts—Their Losses Far Greater Than Ours; We Hold Hindenburg Line and Have Taken Many Guns

Washington, Jan. 9.—In answer to German claims of accomplishments in their encircling counter-attack at Cambrai, Brigadier-General McLachlan, military attache of the British embassy here, issued a statement last night recounting some of the things done by the British and French, with the comment that there was no necessity for pessimism.

"On Nov. 20, 1917," said General McLachlan, "the British made their celebrated attack opposite Cambrai and captured both the Hindenburg line and the Hindenburg support line along a front of some nine miles. Ten days later the Germans heavily reinforced their troops there and tried to recapture all the lost ground, and in their own words to 'turn our embryonic victory into defeat by an encircling counter-attack.' They claimed to have taken 6,000 prisoners and 100 guns."

"I do not admit the accuracy of these figures, but assuming for the sake of argument that these figures are correct, it should like to give a few facts to what the British did. These guns were the first guns lost by the British on the western front since the battle of Ypres in April, 1915, and before this battle of Nov. 20, 1917, the British on the western front had lost only eight or four guns, whereas the number of German guns captured by us since the beginning of the war is 614.

"The net result of the fighting on the Cambrai front is that we still remain in possession of the Hindenburg line and the Hindenburg support line on a front of nine miles. On this front we have advanced a distance of between 3,000 and 4,000 yards. We have captured since Nov. 20, 11,000 prisoners and 180 guns, captures which are considerably greater than those claimed by the Germans. In addition to these results we have inflicted casualties on the enemy which are out of all proportion to our own."

"During the year 1917 in all theatres of war the British have captured 791 guns and 118,000 prisoners. Of these 581 guns and 76,000 prisoners have been captured on the western front."

Our brave Allies, the French, during the year 1917 have captured on the western front very much the same number of guns and prisoners, though I have not the actual figures with me. This, I think, should show that there is no necessity for pessimism regarding the efforts made by the Allies on the western front."

THREE MILLION TONS OF NEW SHIPS IN THE STATES IN 1918

Washington, Jan. 9.—America's probable output of merchant ships in 1918 was put at three million tons today by Homer L. Ferguson, president and general manager of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company, testifying at the senate shipbuilding inquiry. Estimates of from five to eight million tons, he declared, were misleading to the public and should not be permitted to go unchallenged.

Declaring that three million tons is the probable maximum production this year, Mr. Ferguson said that Lloyd's special report estimates the steel output only at 2,600,000 tons. Although he did not condemn the wooden ship programme, Mr. Ferguson said that he doubted if the vessels after they were built would be fit for trans-Atlantic service, but they could be used to great advantage in coastwise trade.

BOSTON TO GET STILL ANOTHER FROM NEW YORK

Boston, Jan. 9.—According to Percy Haughton, president of the Boston National League Baseball Club, another New York player in addition to Herzog will come to Boston in the trade announced in New York last night. He did not name him, but baseball writers thought it would be Ross Young, a New York utility outfielder.

THINKS ALLIES WANT GERMANY TO MAKE PEACE WITH RUSSIA

Trotsky So Expresses Himself To London Newspaper Man

WOULD SERVE THEIR ENDS

Russian Minister Reads This Into Lloyd George's Speech—Re-asserts That Germans on East Front Are Deserting Rather Than go to West

London, Jan. 9.—The Petrograd correspondent of the Daily News says that Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, is convinced that the Entente governments wish Germany to make an advantageous separate peace with Russia so that Germany will agree the more willingly to surrender what the Allies want in the west.

The foreign minister, who was interviewed as he was starting for Geneva, said that Premier Lloyd George had made a statement permitting such an interpretation, and he spoke of the same lines as an editorial printed earlier in the Bolshevik organ, Pravda.

Premier Lloyd George, the correspondent assured Trotsky, had never made such a statement, but the Bolshevik leader was hard to convince and said: "That is the Allied policy." He added that the attitude of the Bolsheviks would not be influenced by the attitude of the Allied governments, but by that of the Allied people.

Trotsky was asked what hope he himself had of a new peace. He replied that it was difficult to say because the Germans had not yet been given a chance to make such a peace, but he was sure the Germans must need it.

German Deserting. The Russian foreign minister stated that the Germans were unable to remove troops from the eastern front in large units. They were removing them one by one, and he knew where they were being sent. He said that he had heard of 25,000 German troops had deserted in the western district, adding that the Germans cannot get their own men to attack the deserters and are trying to reduce them by starvation.

Asked what terms he usually hoped to get, Trotsky refused to reply, and said he was really logical. He said that he was really logical, and he said that he was really logical for the sake of India, Egypt and Transjordan.

The Daily News correspondent protested that Great Britain made nothing out of India, to which Trotsky replied: "Then give up being so altruistic. You English are the most chauvinist nation on the earth without knowing it."

ANOTHER OUTBREAK IN PORTUGAL SUPPRESSED

Madrid, Jan. 9.—Another outbreak has been suppressed in Portugal, according to news reaching here. It is said that crews of Portuguese warships mutinied and began bombarding the Lisbon forts. The army, it appears, remained faithful to the government of Dr. Sidonio Pais and tranquility has been restored.

The rebellious crews were those of the battleship Vasco De Gama, the torpedo boat destroyer Douro and other war vessels. The surrenders in under-1000 have marked the conclusion of the disturbances.

WEATHER REPORT

Phelix and Ferdinand

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis.—The eastern area of low pressure is now centered in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and a very pronounced high accompanied by low temperature has come over the western provinces from the northward. The weather has been considerably colder in Ontario and Quebec, and light snow has fallen in many localities.

Lakes and Georgian Bay, Upper St. Lawrence, Ottawa Valley, Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore; Strong west and northwest winds, light snowfalls, but partly fair and becoming colder today and on Thursday.

Colder, With Snow. Maritime.—Strong west and northwest winds, partly fair, becoming colder today and Thursday, snow flurries.

Lake Superior.—Strong northwest winds, becoming colder today and Thursday, snow flurries.

Western Provinces.—Northerly winds, fair today and Thursday, becoming much colder, snow flurries.

New England.—Fair tonight and Thursday; little change in temperature; moderate west winds.

Snow Storm Driving Over Gen. Currie's Lines

Winter Grips North France Again After Two Mild Days; Dominion Lads Make Enemy Cautious; Electric Lights for C. A. M. C.

Canadian Army Headquarters, Jan. 9.—(By W. A. Williams, Canadian Press War Correspondent)—After two days of mild weather and calm, northern France is again in the grip of winter, with a snow storm driving over the Canadian lines. During the milder weather there was considerable activity on the front. Our battle and reconnoitering patrols have been out in strength in No Man's Land every night, but the enemy has shown little disposition to engage them after one attempted bombing raid in which hostile parties of six and four men respectively were involved with Lewis gun and rifle fire effectively dispersed. Another hostile bombing party received such a warm reception that it retreated without throwing a bomb.

Both the enemy and our own aircraft have been very active in the forward area, but in flying low over the front lines and bombing machine guns in the trenches. An enemy machine, venturing too low, fell a prey to one of our Vickers guns. It was vitally damaged and was seen to fall in the enemy's lines near Mericourt. Yesterday, while our air squadrons were very active crossing enemy lines and machine gunning hostile trenches, the Boche planes were flying high and giving little opportunity to machine guns or snipers. Today's storm and the poor visibility have effectively prevented airplane observation.

There is much satisfaction in the ranks of the C. A. M. C. at the arrival of the first four or six portable electric light plants supplied by the Canadian Red Cross for use in the trenches. These plants will be installed in advanced dressing stations as close to the front line as conditions will permit. The plant was installed today and the others will likely be in operation by the end of this week or early next.

VON HINDENBURG SAID TO HAVE DESTROYED 130 VILLAGES IN REAR OF LINE ON WEST FRONT

Paris, Jan. 9.—The Rome correspondent of the Matin says that by order of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, according to reliable information which has reached here, 130 villages behind the western front, mostly in the region of St. Quentin, have been leveled to the ground so as to afford better opportunity for defence of the German lines to the rear.

Notwithstanding denials, the correspondent adds, only one-third of the 800,000 Belgians deported to Germany have been permitted to return to their homes.

DEFEATED RUSS PLAN NICELY

Further Reference to Haig's Summary of Year

The Subterranean Work at Messines—A Tribute to the Artillery—British Using More Gas—Praise For the Navy

Ottawa, Jan. 9.—A Reuter's despatch through the Ottawa agency, dealing with Field Marshal Haig's report says: Speaking of the unprecedented magnitude of the subterranean warfare at Messines, General Haig mentions that it was known that the enemy were driving a gallery which would ultimately cut the Central Powers held a preliminary discussion yesterday, disposing of questions of procedure, was a despatch from Rev. R. P. McKim, Rev. N. J. McLaughlin, Rev. J. C. B. Appel, Rev. Dr. Steel, Rev. Dr. Hutchinson and Rev. Dr. Elson. Rev. Gideon Swim led the service, and several of the ministers took part, including Messrs. Swin, McLaughlin, Steel and Hutchinson. The address on "Repentance" was given by Rev. Mr. Appel. There was appropriate music by the choir. The services in this group of churches are being attended by many.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

Amsterdam, Jan. 9.—The leaders of the delegation representing Russia and the Central Powers held a preliminary discussion yesterday, disposing of questions of procedure, was a despatch from Rev. R. P. McKim, Rev. N. J. McLaughlin, Rev. J. C. B. Appel, Rev. Dr. Steel, Rev. Dr. Hutchinson and Rev. Dr. Elson. Rev. Gideon Swim led the service, and several of the ministers took part, including Messrs. Swin, McLaughlin, Steel and Hutchinson. The address on "Repentance" was given by Rev. Mr. Appel. There was appropriate music by the choir. The services in this group of churches are being attended by many.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER

The service last evening in the North End group of churches was held in Victoria street Baptist church, which was presided over by Rev. R. P. McKim, Rev. N. J. McLaughlin, Rev. J. C. B. Appel, Rev. Dr. Steel, Rev. Dr. Hutchinson and Rev. Dr. Elson. Rev. Gideon Swim led the service, and several of the ministers took part, including Messrs. Swin, McLaughlin, Steel and Hutchinson. The address on "Repentance" was given by Rev. Mr. Appel. There was appropriate music by the choir. The services in this group of churches are being attended by many.

BURIED TODAY

The funeral of Mrs. Catherine Redmond took place this morning from her late residence, Black River, to the Catholic church there, where high mass of requiem was celebrated by Rev. William Hanigan. Interment was made in the Catholic cemetery at Black River.

NURSE RESIGNS

Miss Florence Saunders, in residence at the Acadia Seminary for nearly six years, has resigned to accept a place on the staff of nurses in the Provincial Sanatorium, Kentville. Miss Miner has been appointed to take the place made vacant by Miss Saunders' resignation.

A Prosperous Year

New York, Jan. 9.—The net income of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph of America for 1917 was \$608,480 as compared with \$558,888 the year previous, according to a statement issued last night. Gross earnings were \$1,228,525, while in 1917 they were \$862,501.

APPALLING CONDITIONS IN PETROGRAD REPORTED

Dirt, Disorder And Crime Prevail

GRIMMAL SWAY UNOPPOSED

Food Situation Critical and Wretched People's Condition Made Worse by Severe Weather—London Times Man Says Things So Desperate That There Must be Intervention

London, Jan. 9.—The situation in Petrograd is depicted in the most gloomy colors by the correspondent of the Times, who in a telegram under date of Monday, the Russian Christmas, says that no Christmas in 300 years has been so dark as this in the city of the tsar. Petrograd, he adds, is full of dirt, disorder and crime.

Burglary, robbery and murder in the most audacious forms prevail to an extent hitherto unknown and there is no police or other authority to which to appeal.

"The food situation is very critical, he says, and starvation appears to be staring the people in the face. The only bread to be had is black, gritty and unpalatable, and is composed of millers' refuse and mixed with straw. Potatoes are getting scarce and dear, while meat is a rare luxury.

The wretched conditions of existence have been aggravated by blinding snowstorms drifted by violent winds for three days and nights with the temperature at 15 degrees. The correspondent sums up the general condition of the country thus:

"Russian affairs have become so desperate that only the intervention of the Allies or the Germans can prevent catastrophe. As this can no longer be expected from the Allies, the disheartened Russian looks to the Germans to put an end to the awful chaos in which the country is now involved."

GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN WASHINGTON TO MAKE CALL ON PRESIDENT

Washington, Jan. 9.—The Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada, is expected to pay a call of courtesy to President Wilson.

The duke, who is accompanied by the Duke of Devonshire, is expected to arrive in Washington today. The duke and his wife are guests of Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador.

THREE COMPANIES ORDERED TO DIVERT COAL TO NEW ENGLAND

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 9.—Fuel Administrator Garfield yesterday ordered the Pittsburg and Shawmut Coal Company and the Rochester and Pittsburg Coal and Iron Company to divert their coal tonnage to New England. These three companies are said to furnish more than eighty per cent of the soft coal used in Buffalo, on the Niagara frontier and in the interior of New York state.

HUNS, BREAKING PLEDGE, SINK ANOTHER HOSPITAL SHIP

London, Jan. 9.—The Daily Mail says that notwithstanding the pledge given in September, the Germans have sunk another hospital ship. All the wounded and crew were saved. Neither the name nor the nationality of the ship is given, nor does the paper say where the vessel was sunk.

London, Jan. 9.—An official announcement says: "His Majesty's hospital ship Rewa was torpedoed and sunk in the Bristol Channel at about midnight on Jan. 4 on her way here from Gibraltar. All the wounded were safely transferred to patrol vessels. There were only three casualties among the crew, three last cars being missing."

"She was displaying all the lights and markings required by the Hague convention. She was not and had not been within the so-called barred zone, as defined in the statement issued by the German government on January 19, 1917."

After making several charges of the misuse of hospital ships, which were dealt specifically by the Entente governments concerned, the Germans last year suspended the immunity of these vessels in the English Channel and certain other waters. The British discontinued special markings of hospital ships on the ground that they were merely rendered conspicuous thereby and were more liable to attack. Last September King Alfonso of Spain intervened and succeeded in obtaining an agreement from the belligerents for the free movement of hospital ships within specified areas.

The torpedoed vessel probably was the British steamship Rewa, 2,300 tons gross, and 456 feet long. She was built in 1908 and owned in Glasgow, and has been in the service of the British government.

Cardiff, Wales, Jan. 9.—Most of the survivors of the Rewa were landed at Swansea. Many of them were without clothing of any kind. The wounded were moved immediately to a hospital. The torpedo which sank the Rewa went directly through the Red Cross painted on her side.

GERMANS DECLARE EXTENSION OF SUBMARINE BARRED ZONE

London, Jan. 9.—Further extension of the submarine barred zone is announced by the German government, to be operative on January 11. The extensions particularly affect the region around "enemy supporting points," on the Cape Verde Islands and the point of support of Dakar, French Senegal, with the adjoining coastal district. The barred zone around the Azores is extended eastward over the island of Madeira, which "serves our adversaries as a point of support."

AIRPLANES TO BE BUILT IN IRELAND

London, Jan. 9.—Referring to the government's decision to erect an aircraft factory in Ireland, the Times says several aeroplanes are now being built there. The establishment of a new and important industry, it adds, is stimulating the national imagination and there will be no lack of Irish recruits for the flying corps.

TWO ELECTIONS IN THE FRENCH PARLIAMENT

Paris, Jan. 9.—Antoine Dubost was re-elected yesterday president of the senate by 128 votes to two for Alexander Ribot and four for J. Desvres. Paul Deschamps was re-elected president of the chamber of deputies. He received 810 of the 884 votes cast.