

The Evening Times Star

VOL. X. No. 86

ST. JOHN N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1915

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

CUT IN ESTIMATES DOES NOT PREVENT INCREASE OF \$104,000 IN ASSESSMENT

City's Advance of \$77,000 Mostly Due To Failure of Unexpended Balance To Wipe Out Interest

Public Works Has Increase of Only \$6,000 For Actual Work And Police Department Gets \$10,000 More For Fourteen New Men—County Total Still Only Approximate But Increase of \$30,000 Believed Unavoidable—President Likely Says Board of Trade, Dissatisfied, Will Take More Interest in Civic Affairs

With an exact increase of \$76,942.12 in the city estimates as finally adopted yesterday, and an apparent unavoidable increase of nearly \$30,000 in the county estimates, as they were approved by the finance committee of the municipal council the total increase in the city assessment can be fairly gauged at \$104,000.

The city commissioners point out that out of last year's assessment \$3,000 was paid the county hospital commissioners and that this is available for maintenance so that an additional vote of \$10,000 is not necessary. They also hope to provide for the Belgian and Patriotic relief funds of \$12,000 out of the county school fund.

Table with 2 columns: 1914, 1915. Rows include Schools, Public works, Fire Department, Police Department, Lamp Department, Sewerage maintenance, Fire Hydrants, Ferry, Civic grants, Interest charges, County assessment.

\*Only approximate as county assessment governed by county council, not yet adopted.

To these totals there must be added a percentage of from 8 to 10 per cent. by the board of assessors as an allowance for discounts on real estate collections.

Chief Increases. It will be seen that the chief increases in the city assessment over last year are: Interest, \$84,179.89, made necessary by the fact that the unexpended balances from 1914 applied to reduction of interest amounted to \$80,000, while this year there remained only \$7,000.

The increases in the county, regarded as unavoidable, are slight advances for the General Public Hospital and Municipal Home, \$7,000 for interest on debentures of the St. John County Hospital for advanced cases of tuberculosis, and \$17,000 for the county valuator.

Mayor Frink is inclined to be critical regarding this last amount as this work was supposed to have been completed last fall and he is surprised to find the entire amount charged in this year's assessment. He also compared the amount made several years ago.

BOARD OF TRADE HEAD NOT FULLY SATISFIED WITH CUT. J. A. Likely, president of the board of trade, said this morning that he was not altogether satisfied with the cutting of the estimates. He had been assured by two of the commissioners that the public works and police departments would come out with an increase of only \$10,000, and yet they appeared to have retained more than \$82,000 of their increase.

He thought good had been done by Phelan and Ferdinand.

INTERNAL TROUBLES OF GERMANY INCREASING. Havre, Jan. 16.—A Socialist deputy, Dr. Liebknecht, who alone in the Reichstag voted against the military credits, has just informed the chiefs of the international socialist that a serious movement against war is manifesting itself among German socialists, and that almost unanimously the federations share his point of view and declare themselves against war.

SENT TO JAIL FOR THREATS AGAINST VON BERNSTORFF. Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 16.—Edwin R. Scott, of Raymond, Washington, was sentenced to six months in jail yesterday for threatening the life of the German ambassador, Count Von Bernstorff. Scott admitted having written two letters to the ambassador in which he made threats. These, he said, were "all bluff."

A REMARKABLE MAN AND ALSO QUITE A TREE. Fred Cole, who, at the age of eighty-five has been working with his sons, George and Allen cutting some logs this season on his own land, says the Northern Light of Bathurst, felled a tree the other day, out of which he got eight logs, the ones nearest the stump measuring twelve feet long and thirty-two inches at the small end. This tree was a magnificent pine, straight, and as sound as it could possibly be, which is quite a rarity in these days of small lumber.

Fair Tomorrow. Maritime — Fresh northerly winds; fair; Sunday winds shifting to easterly; fair until night. New England forecasts—Fair tonight; Sunday, unsettled, probably rain or snow, moderate north to northeast winds.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION. A meeting of the members of the Women's Baptist Missionary Union was held last night in the school room of Leinster street Baptist church. Little of public interest was transacted. The meeting was continued this morning at the residence of the president, Mrs. D. Hutchinson, Douglas avenue, who through illness had been unable to be present at last night's gathering.

MAJOR GENERAL HUGHES AT PORT ARTHUR TODAY. Port Arthur, Ont., Jan. 16.—Major General Sir Hughes arrived in Port Arthur this morning. At 2 p.m. he addressed the Canadian Club and will tonight address a public meeting.

POSTMASTERS GIVE \$5,000 TO THE THREE FUNDS. Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 16.—The Postmasters' Association of Canada, through the postmaster at Renfrew, has contributed \$2,000 to the patriotic fund, \$2,000 to the Belgian relief and \$1,000 to the Red Cross.

FIRE AT SMITH'S COVE, N. S. Digby, N. S., Jan. 16.—Weir Bros' grocery store and contents were destroyed by fire between three and four o'clock this morning. Living apartments upstairs were occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Weir, who had a narrow escape. They lost all their clothing. The loss is estimated at between \$3,000 and \$4,000, with very little insurance.

Greece Is With England, Whose Cause Is Just

London, Jan. 16.—The Greek minister, M. J. Germain, addressing a meeting here last night, said: "We are not only in sympathy with, but are absolutely devoted to the cause of England in this great world crisis, because we are convinced that her cause is just and good for the world."

SWEDEN APPEARS TO BE GETTING READY FOR WAR

Officers Ordered Home and Medical Supplies Being Purchased — Spirited Fighting in Western Area Continues

Copenhagen, Jan. 16.—All Swedish officers in Persia have been ordered home, according to a despatch from Stockholm. Sweden is buying \$50,000 worth of medical supplies. This despatch would indicate that Sweden is making preparations for eventualities that may force her into war.

Paris, Jan. 16.—The French War Office this afternoon reported: "In Belgium yesterday, there was artillery fighting in the region of Neuport, and in vicinity of Ypres."

"From the Lys to the Somme, at Notre Dame De Lorette, near Catency, the enemy re-occupied a portion of the trenches he lost to us on January 14. At Bligny, near Arras, we have continued to make progress. The enemy delivered an energetic attack preceded by a violent artillery fire, on our positions to the west of La Bassée. This attack was repulsed."

"Along the entire front from the Somme to the Meuse, no infantry engagements were reported yesterday. In the sectors of Soissons and Rheims, our artillery obtained noticeable advantage at several points, such as the scattering of a regiment that was about to reassemble, causing an explosion in a German battery, the destruction of field work, etc."

"In the Argonne there was yesterday a rather determined artillery attack on our positions at Fontaine Blédeau."

"From the Argonne to the Vosges, we checked completely a spirited attack of the enemy directed against our trenches at Flirey, and the Germans evacuated the crest of the hill to the north of Clermont, east of Pont-A-Mousson. They were compelled to do by the fire of our artillery."

"In the centre of the Vosges, there were artillery exchanges on all the front. There were also some heavy rifle firing, particularly at Tete De Fauz. In these attacks there was no change."

TURKISH TROOP SHIPS SUNK. London, Jan. 16.—A Petrograd despatch to the Havas Agency states that it is reported from Sebastopol that the Russian fleet, during recent days, sank eight sailing vessels transporting reinforcements to the Turkish army in Anatolia, Asia Minor.

GERMAN 'TRUTH' STOUTLY DENIED. London, Jan. 16.—The official announcement in Berlin yesterday, relating the capture of 4,300 French troops at the battle, concludes with the usual phrase: "The truth is as follows: A wireless despatch from Paris, copied in London, categorically denied the capture of 4,300 French troops, engaged in the Soissons battle were fewer than three brigades, and that consequently the Berlin figures cannot be correct."

RUSSIANS CARE FOR PRISONERS OF WAR. Washington, Jan. 16.—Regulations of the Russian War Office to prisoners of war are as follows: "The prisoners of war must be humanely treated. Under no circumstances shall they be restricted from worship according to their faith, the sole condition being non-interference with war regulations."

The belongings of prisoners of war, with the exception of weapons, horses and war papers shall remain untouched. Every prisoner of war is required to reveal his real name and rank.

Commanders of military districts who are entrusted, are strictly forbidden to put such prisoners to work for their own benefit, or with their own consent.

In quarters assigned to them, prisoners of war will wear regulation clothing but without distinction of rank. Things necessary to them will be supplied and issued to them by the commissary. Such articles will remain at the disposal of the prisoners in whose districts prisoners are located.

Generals, admirals and staff and superior officers, shall receive pay according to rank, as follows: Generals and admirals, 1,500 rubles (a ruble is equivalent to about 81½ cents); staff officers, two hundred rubles, and subalterns 500 rubles annually.

The Kaiser's Birthday. Berlin, Jan. 16.—The Reichstagszeiger has published a decree signed by Emperor William asking that all festivities formerly held on the occasion of his birthday, January 31, be omitted this year, except celebrations in churches and schools.

ITALIAN CONSUL AT LIEGE ARRESTED. Amsterdam, Jan. 16.—Advices from Liege report that Signor Crippi, Italian vice consul there, has been arrested by the Germans and is being held in their possession.

Taking Care in Paris. Paris, Jan. 16.—The military government has submitted to the authorities a suggestion that there be a diminution in the number of lights in Paris and its suburbs, as a precautionary measure against aerial incursions by the Germans.

In South Africa. Pretoria, South Africa, Jan. 16.—The Union government today granted amnesty to all members of the Union Defence Force, who were forced into the ranks of the rebellious Boers by their superiors. At the same time it was announced that all who had voluntarily joined the rebels, would be tried by court martial.

Earthquake Dead Now Estimated at 35,000

The Number of Injured Is Placed At 45,000

HIS FACE MASKED. Conceal Identity of Distinguished German in Strassburg Hospital

London, Jan. 16.—A Paris despatch to the Daily News says:—A remarkable story is published by the Belgian Vingtieme Siecle, about a masked patient in Strassburg, whose identity is being kept secret by the Germans.

The story goes that Doctor Debauxieux, a professor of the University of Louvain, was recently summoned to a consultation in Strassburg by the military authorities. When the professor entered the patient's room, he noted with astonishment that the sufferer, who, he was told, was an officer who had been grievously wounded in the battlefields, was wearing a mask which completely concealed his features.

Doctor Debauxieux kept the matter a profound secret and when one of his friends tried to prevail on him to throw some light on the identity of his mysterious patient, he declined to say anything. It was through the indiscretion of a member of the headquarters staff at Louvain that the people there got wind of the affair. At Louvain it is generally believed that the mysterious patient was the crown prince. The correspondent of the Vingtieme Siecle has, however, been assured by a German officer with whom he is on friendly terms, that the man in the mask is not the crown prince, but another personage of the highest importance.

C. R. ORD RETIRES. C. Kyle New Master Mechanic of Atlantic Division

After a period of able service dating back for thirty-one years, C. R. Ord, master mechanic for the C. P. R., with headquarters at McAdam Junction, N. B., is retiring and, taking effect today, C. Kyle, of Montreal, becomes his successor. Mr. Ord has been a valued employe of the company and his retirement, which is caused by ill-health, will be regretted.

His successor in office, has been for some time assistant to the superintendent of motive power at Montreal and comes to the office well fitted to take charge. It is expected that his headquarters will be removed to St. John in the near future. Mr. Kyle's place in Montreal is being taken by G. Whitley, formerly one of the western divisions.

YARMOUTH AUDITORS SO FAR HAVE FOUND A SHORTAGE OF \$450

Yarmouth, N. S., Jan. 16.—Although the auditors are not yet through with the examination of the municipality's books and papers, they have so far discovered a shortage of \$450 in the accounts, \$200 of it being from the poor account. It is said that practically all of it was incurred during December.

SHERBROOKE HAS \$100,000 FIRE; ONE LIFE IS LOST

Sherbrooke, Que., Jan. 16.—One life was lost in a serious fire which destroyed Codere & Son's large hardware store yesterday.

The victim was a young man named Maillet, who was buying some glass and was in the basement when the fire started. The loss will be more than \$100,000, well covered by insurance.

WM. J. PHELAN OF HALIFAX DEAD

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 16.—Wm. J. Phelan, brother of the late Frank Phelan, secretary of the pilotage commission, died this morning of tuberculosis. He was well known to many in St. John. At one time he was very prominent socially in Halifax.

A Warning to Carranza. Washington, Jan. 16.—Secretary Bryan announced yesterday that the United States had warned General Carranza that "serious consequences" would follow the threatened confiscation of foreign oil fields at Tampico.

THE CRUCIBLE. (By A. M. Belding.)

In the clash of their ideals men and nations clear the way, Over graves and through the darkness to a new and better day; Each one calls his gods to battle from some new Olympus bright, And condemns the other pagan for the tempest and the blight. But in ways no man perceiveth in the agony of strife, An eternal purpose moulds the higher destinies of life; For though many a mad Emperor to thoughts of conquest wake, And though many a sun in darkness set and many a heart may break, From the crucible of anguish comes the gold of God's design, And the new generations mark the stamp of the Divine. Slow but surely comes the moment when the nations wiser grown Shall renounce their crimson idols and destroy the war-god's throne, Then the Dreadnoughts of the ocean and the air shall cease to prey, And the argosies of commerce go their unmoored way,— Some new Jason see the vision of a richer Golden Fleece, And returning lead the nations to the sunny Isles of Peace.

Continued on page 2, sixth column.