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The Toronto World

THURSDAY MORNING DECEMBER 27, 1917—FOURTEEN PAGES.

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VOL. XXXVII.—No. 13,560 TWO CENTS

STATE OPERATION OF U.S. RAILWAYS IS ANNOUNCED BY WILSON
PRIVATE MANAGEMENT SUPERSEDED FOR DURATION OF WAR
CANADIAN RAILROAD RATES TO ADVANCE AMERICAN RAILWAYS PLACED UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Only Mayor Church and Controller Cameron Differ, and Point is on Duration and Frequency of Meetings of Board of Control.

For over three hours last night an audience which comfortably filled the auditorium of Central Y.M.C.A. listened to a dozen or more of the candidates for municipal honors expounding their views on the problems which will have to be settled by the city council during the next few years.

POINTS FROM ADDRESSES OF VARIOUS CANDIDATES

"I do not want to be mayor for the money in it. I give two-thirds of my salary every year to the city's interests. I can't go to war, so I want to do my bit at home. Thousands of men overseas have asked me to stay in the race."—Mayor T. L. Church.
"I invite anybody to look into my record in the city council."—Ald. MacGregor.
"Let us foolishly promise to reduce taxes. Ten million dollars a year of the city's money goes to carrying our debt."—Controller R. H. Cameron.

HIGHER FARES PUT IN FORCE FOR RAILWAYS

Board of Commissioners Issues Order Increasing Passenger Rates. FREIGHT AFFECTED
Raise in Haulage Charges of Fifteen Per Cent. Goes Into Effect.
Ottawa, Dec. 26.—An important judgment handed down today by the board of railway commissioners provides for a 15 per cent. increase in passenger rates in all parts of Canada with the exception of British Columbia, where the maximum rate is now three cents per mile.



COLONIAL TROOPS ON THE FRENCH FRONT.—These picturesque colonial troops, who are fighting in France at the side of the French forces, are Algerian Spahis, who are only happy when they can fight.

President Wilson Announces U. S. Administration Will Assume Possession and Operation of Railways, December 28.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Government possession and operation of the nation's railroads for the war was proclaimed by President Wilson tonight, to become effective at noon next Friday, December 28. William G. McAdoo, retaining his place in the cabinet as secretary of the treasury, is placed in charge as director-general of railroads.
Every railroad engaged in general transportation with its appurtenances, including steamship lines, is taken over and all systems will be operated as one under the director-general.

BRITISH SHIPPING LOSSES FOR WEEK SHOW DECREASE

Eleven Merchantmen Are Sunk as Compared With Seventeen Reported By Admiralty for Previous Week.
London, Dec. 26.—The losses to British shipping show a material decrease for the past week. According to the admiralty report tonight 11 British merchantmen of 1900 tons or over were sunk during this period by mine or submarine, as well as one merchantman under that tonnage and one fishing vessel.

WAR FORTUNES FLUCTUATE IN MOUNTAINS OF ITALY

Italian Troops Wrest Positions From Austro-Germans, But Are Later Pressed Back By Counter-Attacks.
London, Dec. 26.—Except for the northern front, the military operations continue far below normal. In France, where snow has fallen along the entire front, only bombardments and small raiding operations are taking place.

CHRISTMAS DAY SPENT QUIETLY BY CANADIANS

Rain, Snow and Frost Made Front Lines Inactive—Celebrations in Rear.
WOUNDED BANQUETED
Concerts and Moving Pictures With Gifts From Home Entertained Soldiers.
By W. A. Willison.
Canadian Headquarters in France, via London, Dec. 26.—Christmas has come and gone. The front line was quiet Christmas Day, which was wet and stormy. There was rain in the morning, turning to a snowstorm in the evening, and it was clear and cold at night.

KAISER BARELY ESCAPED DEATH IN MANNHEIM RAID

British Bombs Destroyed Station and Tracks Just After Emperor's Special Train Pulled Out.
Geneva, Dec. 26.—The German emperor, returning with his staff from the Verdun front, had a narrow escape during the reprisal raid of a British air squadron on Mannheim, Christmas Eve, according to a despatch from Basle. Only about an hour earlier the emperor's special train left the station, which was partly destroyed by several bombs.

JELICOE, MADE A PEER, IS OUT OF ADMIRALTY

Noted British Admiral is Succeeded as First Sea Lord by Vice-Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss.
London, Dec. 26.—Vice-Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss has been appointed first sea lord in succession to Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, according to an official announcement issued this evening.

SOCIAL REVOLUTIONISTS REPLACING BOLSHEVIKI

Council of National Commissioners Dilutes Membership—Attempted Compromise Fails.
Petrograd, Dec. 26.—The peasant delegation which went to Kiev to effect a compromise between the Bolshevik authorities and the Ukraine rada report that they had no success. The central executive committee of the workers' and soldiers' delegates yesterday approved the appointment of seven social revolutionists as members of the council of the national commissioners to replace Bolshevik members.

FIVE HUNDRED BLINDED IN HALIFAX EXPLOSION

Two Hundred Totally Lose Eyesight—Half Million Dollars Needed for Relief.
Halifax, N.S., Dec. 25.—The first estimate that five hundred men, women and children had become totally or partially blind as a result of the recent catastrophic explosion at Halifax is proving correct. At least two hundred of these will be totally blind, and the majority of them are young women and children.

PARLIAMENT IS FIRST OF KIND IN THE WORLD

Boys in Their 'Teens Open Four Days' Session in Toronto and Discuss Questions of National Interest.
At 10 o'clock last night the first session of the first boys' parliament in the world was adjourned after sitting two hours, the legislative chamber being the board room of the board of education administration building, College street.

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ITALIANS LOSE SIX VESSELS

Rome, Dec. 25.—The losses to Italian shipping during the past week from submarines were three steamers of more than 1500 tons, two sailing vessels of more than 100 tons and one sailing vessel of less than 100 tons.

MEN'S COON COATS

An exceptionally well-graded variety of coon skin coats for men at Dineen's all full furred, well matched skins—wide skirts—large lapels and high storm collars. The prices, like the assortment cannot be duplicated in Toronto. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

NO REFLECTION ON RAILWAYS

The president makes it clear that his decision was not made because of any failure on the part of any railroads to perform their whole duty insofar as they could while hampered as they were by legal restrictions.
The committee of railroad executives," said his statement, "have

COST OF LIVING IN BRITAIN DOUBLED SINCE WAR BEGAN

London, Dec. 12.—(Mail).—The cost of living in Great Britain has risen 106 per cent. since the war, according to official figures presented in the house of commons.

AT OLD CHATEAU

Stricken fighters met at the restaurant in the green hills amidst the quiet surroundings of a quiet old chateau, celebrated the season at a happy banquet in a great but which was cool with a green, brightened with the merable red, white and blue and green streamers, lightened by many red cross lamps and Chinese lanterns, and warmed by two big stoves.

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PREMIER MOVES REPLY

In moving the address and reply to the speech from the throne, Premier Joe McCully, St. Thomas City, referred to the increase in juvenile crime in countries other than Canada, and said that even the Canadian record was nothing to be very proud of.

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