

NEWS OF WORLD TOLD IN BRIEF

Many Italian Towns Cemeteries and Later Reports of Earthquake Swell Death Roll

FRENCH WERE FORCED BACK

Flooded Aisne Cut Them Off From Reinforcements - Tide of War Turned Against Germans in Poland - Mobilization of Canadians.

The toll of dead and injured in the great earthquake that has swept over Central and Southern Italy has not yet been made up, but advices reaching Rome indicate the ever-growing extent of the disaster. Towns with thousands of inhabitants have been overthrown, and from some of these come details which show an immense loss of life. The estimates run from 25,000 to 50,000 dead and injured, and yet there are several sections, which undoubtedly felt the earthquake in full measure, from which no estimates can be obtained. In the ancient territory of Marsi, which includes Avezzano, the victims are placed at 20,000. Only a small minority of the inhabitants of Avezzano, who numbered approximately ten thousand, are left and the town is filled with dead and wounded and wrecked houses. Fifteen other towns and villages in that section have been laid waste. Since the earthquake of 1908 the scene at Avezzano and thirty thousand soldiers have been despatched to the various centres where the force of the disturbance was greatest.

The French line north-east of Soissons, cut off from reinforcements through destruction by the floods of several bridges across the river Aisne, has been forced to retreat before an overwhelming German force to the south bank of the river along a stretch of the swollen stream extending westward from Messy in village six miles east of Soissons. The French lost prisoners the number of which is not known, but also claim to have taken some Germans of importance. Nothing is given in the official report to corroborate the claim contained in the Berlin official report, received from London, that the Germans took more than 4,000 French prisoners.

It is now beyond all question that the desperate trial of strength in Poland has turned against the Germans. Marshal von Hindenburg is receding from the stupendous waste of armed force which has been the only result of the second invasion. The German eastern armies will doubtless continue to fight with stubbornness, but the real initiative, and with it ultimate success are slipping from their grasp.

A statement showing the mobilization and organization centres for the third Canadian Contingent was issued by the Militia Department yesterday. It will consist of thirteen regiments of mounted rifles and twenty-two battalions of extra-divisional infantry. Recruiting centres will be at every company and squadron headquarters or at any town or centre in the battalion district. The organization centres will be where the company or squadron units will be located. Mobilization centres in the 13th division will be at Montreal, Sherbrooke and St. John.

In a note delivered yesterday by Ambassador Page at London, Secretary Bryan acknowledged receipt of the preliminary reply of the British Government to the American note protesting against the treatment of neutral commerce by the British fleet. He expressed appreciation of the friendly spirit in which the communication had been received, and noted with satisfaction that the principles of international law set forth by the United States had been accepted.

A new Zeppelin airship left Friedrichshafen yesterday on a trial flight of an hour. After skirting Lake Constance the airship disappeared over the Grand Duchy of Baden, and later returned safely to its base. Prior to making the trip a German aeroplane made a scouting tour in order to prevent a surprise by French aircraft. It is reported that the new Zeppelin will depart shortly for service on the North Sea.

Swiss banks are receiving large sums of money and scrip from members of the Hapsburg family, members of the Austrian aristocracy and Vienna financiers, as deposits; and also large orders to buy American securities. Recently one Austrian Archduke sold a large estate in the Tyrol, at virtually half its value, for cash.

AMERICAN EXPERT GIVES OPINION ON GOLD IMPORTS FROM CHINA

New York, January 15.—An interesting theory is advanced by an arbitrage expert by way of explaining the present gold import movement from China and Japan. According to his view, German merchants in the Orient whose business has been destroyed by the British blockade of German ports, and who have wound up their affairs by remitting the proceeds via New York, not only because it is a natural centre, but also in order to take advantage of the abnormal cheapness of Berlin exchange in local market. With marks selling just over 87, it is figured that a banker stands to make a profit of nearly nine per cent. on arbitrage operation, involving purchase of marks in this centre.

PRIZE HOLSTEIN COW

St. John, N.B., January 15.—The Maritime Provinces have the reputation of producing great men, but they produce other great things as well. One of these lines of greatness was indicated at the recent Maritime Winter Fair, when a Holstein cow, owned by S. Dickie & Sons, made three points higher than the record score made at the Ontario Winter Fair, and twenty points higher than any score ever made at a public contest, so far as here known, in the world.

SIXTY PER CENT. CAPACITY IN STEEL

New York, January 15.—Steel market continues quiet, incoming business of the United States Steel Corporation since the first of the month has been running at the rate of 25,000 or 30,000 tons a day or something like 60 per cent. capacity. While there is some disappointment of failure of consumers to respond to very low prices, manufacturers are looking for better things later on. Although bars and shapes are selling at \$1.19 there appears to be some competition in plates at \$1.05 per 100 pounds. Competition with Canada is one of the unsettling features.

Chicago, January 15.—A car load of No. 2 rye sold on Thursday in the sample market at \$1.17 a bushel, the highest since the civil war.

GLEANED FROM MANY SOURCES

Montana will take a census of its big game animals.

Pope Benedict will hold a consistory February 22.

Baltimore and Ohio dividend reduced to 5 per cent. annual basis.

Reported that Germany is planning another loan of about \$1,250,000,000.

Petrograd announces Russian progress on the right bank of the Lower Vistula.

Hundreds of acres of winter wheat in Oklahoma are infected by the Hessian fly.

Average price of twelve industrial 77.53, up 0.23; twenty railroads, 90.81, up 0.33.

Lloyd's, in London, made a quotation of 60 per cent. on insurance against peace by June.

Vice-President Eldridge of National City Bank says conditions in the South are improving daily.

Bankruptcy proceedings against Cramp, Mitchell & Co., of Philadelphia, were dismissed.

Officials of the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Co. report that orders are picking up generally.

Sir Raymond Beek was elected chairman of Lloyd's for 1915 to succeed Sir John Lushcombe.

New York Subway asks Pressed Steel Car and Standard Car Companies for bids on 478 steel cars.

City of Philadelphia offers to-day over the counter at par, \$2,000,000 worth of 4 per cent. municipal bonds.

Cornelius Van Eslerker, member of the New York Stock Exchange, died in his home in Hackensack, aged sixty-one.

The Eastern Steel Co. plant at Pottsville, Pa., resumed operations in several departments in which work was recently suspended.

At Vreney, northeast of Soissons, the Germans have driven the French back across the Aisne, making them abandon 5 miles of trenches.

For the first time in its history, London City & Midland Bank announces its gold holdings, which amounts to \$2,000,000.

The Inland Steel Co., of Chicago, is operating at about 75 per cent. capacity, compared with 50 per cent. in the early part of December.

The Germans are making another drive at the Russian centre along the Bzura River, and have succeeded in occupying three advance positions.

State Department at Washington asks Great Britain to waive seizure of Dacia for one voyage in order that she may deliver her cargo of cotton.

The French War Office admits retirement, but claims that it will have no effect upon general operations, and says that the German attacks have been checked.

It is estimated that world's output of rubber in 1914 was 197,000 tons, same as in 1913. In 1913 production of plantation rubber was 16,000 tons, and in 1914, 62,000 tons.

New York Life Insurance Company since first of August has advanced money to policy-holders as loans on policies as follows: In United States and Canada, \$14,256,565; in Europe, \$2,965,040; in other foreign countries, \$860,410.

Lawrence (Massachusetts) Gas Co. will increase capital stock from \$1,500,000 to \$2,500,000. Additional stock will be issued at 140, each holder of an old share being entitled to subscribe to 6-19 of a new share.

To replace the revenues lost through the European war the Panama Government has introduced in the National Assembly a bill providing for a stamp tax on liquors, tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, checks and documents of all kinds.

FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IS INEVITABLE

New York, January 15.—The head of one of the most prosperous industrial corporations listed on the New York Stock Exchange and doing a large business in all sections of the country, except in the south, says: "I consider the state of the country's business to be very fair. Retailer's stocks on hand are low, and the fine prices for agricultural products of the middle west and northwest are leading to a stimulation of business in those sections. "Business of the country has never been so liquid a basis and so ready to expand as at present. "Collections are improving in all sections not excepting the south, and I believe further improvement in business inevitable."

OTTAWA'S CIVIC FINANCING

Ottawa, January 15.—City Auditor Chief declares that it is the intention of the civic authorities to inaugurate radical changes in the financial methods of the city. At the present time it is the custom to strike the estimates and then fix the tax rate. It is the intention to first fix the tax rate and then strike the estimates in order that the expenditure will be in conformity with the revenue. Several other changes from the methods of financing at present obtaining are contemplated and the details will be made known in the course of a few days.

INTERESTED IN COLONIZATION

St. John, N.B., January 15.—The attention of an English Colonization Company has been directed to the great advantages which New Brunswick possesses for colonization purposes. Not only has this Province thousands of acres of fertile lands splendidly adapted for every form of mixed farming, but the most of this land is within easy reach of railway and market, and it is located such a short distance from the ocean at St. John that it makes it an easy matter for settlers from the United Kingdom or Europe to reach it. The St. John Board of Trade and the Provincial Government are both interested themselves in this colonization scheme.

DEFEATED JOE MARTIN

Among those whom ex-Mayor L. D. Taylor yesterday defeated in his successful run for the Mayoralty of Vancouver was the Hon. Joe Martin. There were four candidates in all.

A Breakfast in Ceylon

would not bring you a more delicious cup of tea than you may have at your own table by using

"SALADA"

Black, Green and Mixed

GERMAN TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN, 1913

Imports of Dyestuffs and Chemicals-- United Kingdom the Best Customer of German Beet Sugar

A NOTE OF WARNING

Report For Year 1913 on Trade of Germany Edited by Foreign Office and Published in Form of British White Paper.

With several thousand people present, including a delegation of about forty prominent business men from Dallas, the new plant of the Texas Power & Light Co. in East Waco, which, with its equipment, represents an investment near \$1,000,000, was formally opened. The programme was arranged by the Young Men's Business League and the Chamber of Commerce in connection with officials of the Texas Power & Light Company.

According to the reports of the Wisconsin Railroad Commission for the year ended June 30, 1914, operating revenues of electric utilities in that State increased 11.29 per cent. over the preceding year; gas utilities increased 5.2 per cent. and heating utilities 16.61 per cent. New construction for the year increased 6.3 per cent. for gas utilities, with a decrease of 2.5 per cent. for the water companies. Total electric heating, gas and water utilities reporting to the commission numbered 341, a gain of 120 over 1913. During the year the commission granted authority for the issuance of \$52,262,414 of securities. In the electric railway business the operating ratio has increased from an average of 68.5 per cent. in 1910 to 72.88 in 1914, and the operating ratio of the heating utilities rose from 75.56 to 87.68 per cent. in the same period.

New York, January 15.—Further ease is noted in time money market, but apart from a little lending in six months' maturities at 3 1/2 per cent. Market is virtually at a standstill. Rates are nominally 2 per cent. for 60 days, 2 1/2 for 90 days, 3 1/2 for 3 1/2 for four months, and 3 1/2 per cent. for five and six months.

The annual meeting of the Intercollegiate Rugby Football Union has been called for Saturday afternoon at Toronto. An effort is being made to induce the collegians to adopt the rules of the Canadian Rugby Union.

THE ALIEN DRAMA

Speaking on the "Drama and the Nation" at the St. James Literary Society, last night, Mr. B. K. Sandwell claimed that the inclusion of Canada as part of the territory of the American booking office was having the effect of creating an artificial similarity of taste between Canadians and Americans, whereas, if left to themselves, Canadians were quite capable of developing a dramatic taste of their own, equal to that of the people of the United States, but characteristic of the Canadian mentality.

The best work of British and European dramatists was being cut off from the Canadian stage through this American control. Two methods by which the reform would probably work, however, would be the establishment of repertory theatres controlled by citizens of the various Canadian cities in which they were founded, and employing permanent companies; and the booking of British attractions straight from London for purely Canadian, or Canadian-South African-Australian, tours. A beginning had already been made in the latter direction.

Mr. Sandwell further stated that drama leagues might do much to assist this work, but while there was a Drama League in existence in Montreal for the purpose of encouraging attendance at good plays, it seemed to be still waiting for a play good enough for it to encourage.

Mlle. Anna Pavlova, the Russian prima danseuse, with her complete corps de ballet, and orchestra, will begin a four weeks season of Russian dancing on February 2 at the Century Opera House, New York. It has been announced.

Following the announcement that Milton and Sargent Aborn are planning the organization of a new opera company to be housed in a smaller theatre and to be distinctly apart from the present Century Opera Company further plans became known yesterday. Despite the fact that the board of directors of the Century Opera Company took upon this as being the first move of the Aborns to sever their connection with the present company the latter said that they still considered themselves general managers of the Century Company and are carrying on its work until further notification from the directors. There will be no board of directors in our new opera company, said Milton Aborn. We shall have unrestricted charge.

Emma Calve, famous for her portrayal of Carmen in Bizet's opera of that name, has again come to America, but this time not to appear in operatic productions at the Metropolitan, but to sing her way through the United States for the benefit of the French and English wounded in the war in Europe. Mme. Calve has for the last few months been doing active Red Cross work in the field hospitals in Southern France and has only one purpose in mind—that of raising money to continue the work. "It was my greatest pleasure to be able to help in Red Cross work," she said. "I have been singing in the field hospitals and in the cathedrals of France to raise funds for the care of the wounded. I have succeeded, they tell me, in raising almost \$20,000 in this way."

ARGENTINE GRAIN MOVEMENT

New York, January 15.—Argentine weekly cable to the Produce Exchange says:—

Table with 2 columns: Shipments of wheat, Corn, Oats, Argentine wheat, viable, and Corn. Includes bushels and increase/decrease indicators.

NOTES ON PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Galveston-Houston Electric Company reports for November gross earnings at \$195,389, a decrease of \$15,222, and net earnings \$92,269, an increase of \$2,786. For the twelve months good gains were reported, gross income having been \$2,435,544, an increase of \$32,649, and net earnings were \$1,111,570, an increase of \$103,907. The surplus for the twelve months was \$470,105, an increase of \$80,829.

The Maine Public Utilities Commission reports that for the year ended June 30, 1914, net income of the electric railways of that State was \$561,519, or \$24,283 less than in the previous year. Gross income of the companies increased \$243,810, while total charges were \$263,204 greater. The number of passengers increased \$84,101 and total mileage of lines was 49,727, an increase of 9.18 miles during the year.

A reduction of \$50,439 in surplus over charges for the twelve months ended November 30 was reported by the Dallas Electric Company. The surplus was \$551,859. Gross income, however, increased \$62,558 to \$2,226,336, while net income was \$916,902, an increase of \$12,868. For the month of November there was a decrease of \$17,955 in gross earnings to \$180,203, and an increase of \$11,579 in net to \$84,101. Surplus for the month was \$50,715, a decrease of \$4,807.

The Sierra Pacific Electric Company reports a falling off in earnings for both November and the twelve months ended November 30, 1914. For the month gross amounted to \$39,754, a decrease of \$15,206, and net \$17,326, a decrease of \$14,738. For the twelve months gross earnings were \$608,349, a decrease of \$38,863, and net earnings \$346,406, a decrease of \$42,733. The surplus over charges was \$260,427, a decrease of \$55,109 from 1913.

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THEATRICAL NEWS

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HAPPENINGS IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

Most Famous Golf Course on European Continent was Destroyed by the War

FOURNIER JOINS CANADIENS

American Horses to Take Part in Ottawa Ice Racing - Mike Gibbons May Tackle Heavyweights - Overtures to Intercollegiate Rugby Union.

British golfers are mourning the destruction of the famous Lombardy links near Nieuport in Belgium. The course was considered by many authorities to be the best on the Continent, and a number of changes for the improvement of the links were being made when the war began. The now famous River Tees borders the southwest side of the Lombardy links.

Jack Fournier, of Ottawa, has been signed by the Canadiens to take a place on their defence. One of the best amateurs in the capital last season, he is husky and has plenty of speed.

Jack Dillon, who hasn't displayed his wares around Gotham in a long while, will get a chance to work on Porky Flynn at the Broadway S. C. to-morrow night. This club will try out the scheme of giving matinee bouts by starting with one next Monday afternoon, in which only amateur talent will be used save in the main bouts.

When the Quebec hockeyists lock horns with the Wanderers next Wednesday, a battle-royal is likely to take place. These teams, together with the Ottawas, are the contenders for the championship of the N. H. A.

The Alex. Taylor-Arnold Ibbotson English billiard match has been called off, owing to the inability of the latter to afford the time (three nights) necessary for the engagement.

Cooper Smeaton appears to have made a great hit when he appeared for the first time as a N. H. A. referee at Toronto on Wednesday. A very clean exhibition resulted.

A number of American horses are expected to participate in the ice races which take place under the auspices of the Hull Driving Club on the Ottawa River January 28th, to February 3rd.

The Sons of Ireland Hockey Club, of Quebec, would like to play a game with any Junior hockey team of Montreal next Wednesday.

"I'd like to see Mike Gibbons tackle the heavyweights," said Jimmy Johnston in New York. "Levinsky does it, why couldn't Mike, who is a litter, and the class of the entire game? He could knock half of them out. I'm going to make him do it. Can't you see the crowd that will troop into the Garden to see Gumbo Smith and Mike Gibbons?" He's a fighter if he doesn't take up giant killing as a pastime.

Harry Hyland was absent from the practice of the Wanderers at the Arena yesterday. The injury to his foot, however, is not as serious as was expected.

The annual meeting of the Intercollegiate Rugby Football Union has been called for Saturday afternoon at Toronto. An effort is being made to induce the collegians to adopt the rules of the Canadian Rugby Union.

Hockey has made such a decided hit in Ottawa that a movement is on foot to secure a central location for the erection of an artificial ice arena that will accommodate 8,000 spectators.

The curlers of the city are now engrossed with their club competitions. Seven series of games set in progress last night.

The Argonauts and St. Michaels, who clash in an important O. H. A. fixture to-morrow night at Toronto, are both playing an exceptionally fine game. Argonauts have a strong team, but, as usual, St. Michaels are the favorites.

Mr. B. Tooke was re-elected president of the Esplanade Golf Club at the annual meeting. The accommodation provided by the condition of the course has the great improvement in the members and visitors during the year, fully justifying the policy of expansion which was inaugurated in 1913.

Queen's, of Kingston, have four of last year's champion intercollegiate team for this season. R. Smith in goal, Box at centre, and Dobson and McKinnon for the wings. White and Goddard will likely constitute the defence, but the rover has, as yet, not been decided upon.

A smoker is to be given in the McGill Union this evening, when an interesting programme of boxing and wrestling is to be presented.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO EXPECTS SOME IMPROVEMENT IN TRAFFIC

New York, January 15.—As to Baltimore and Ohio ability to maintain a 5 per cent. rate through the present depression, a director says the board was of the opinion at Thursday's meeting that unless some wholly unexpected development took place, the company would be able to maintain that rate without drawing further on its accumulated surplus. He added that the road was in better condition than ever before, and that the rate increases, most of which would become effective by February 1st, would add not less than \$2,000,000 a year to the net earnings. This estimate would mean 1.3 per cent. on common stock.

CALL MONEY AT NEW YORK

New York, January 15.—Call money lending and renewing at 2 per cent.

AMUSEMENTS

HIS MAJESTY'S MATS. WED. THURS. SAT All Seats Reserved 15c-25c-50c. DEL. S. LAWRENCE Stock Co. THIS WEEK 'THREE WEEKS'

WEATHER: Fair With Snow

Vol. XXIX, No. 212

THE MOLSONS BANK Incorporated 1855 Capital Paid Up \$4,000,000 Reserve Fund \$4,500,000 Head Office—MONTREAL 22 Branches in Canada Agents in All Parts of the World Savings Department at all Branches LETTERS OF CREDIT ISSUED TRAVELLING CHEQUES ISSUED DRAFTS AND MONEY ORDERS ISSUED A General Banking Business Transacted

RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL Special Winter Apartment Rates: Luncheon, \$1.25 Dinner, \$1.50 or a la carte. Balls, Banquets, Dinners, Wedding Reception Lectures, Concerts and Recitals, Solicited. Suppers from 9 till 12 p.m. Music by Lignante's Celebrated Orchestra.

THE DOMINION SAVING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY DOMINION SAVINGS BUILDING LONDON, CANADA \$1,000,000 200,000 T. J. FRIDOM, K.C. President NATHANIEL M. Managing Director

GERMANS BOMBARD SOISSONS Paris, January 15.—The Germans have begun their bombardment of Soissons, the French base operations on the Aisne. A number of shells fell in the central part of the city, which had already been seriously damaged. Wounded French soldiers had to be carried from one of the temporary military hospitals. A report was current here that the Germans in an attempt to breach the Aisne to the south and capture Soissons, but such an attempt, it is said at the War Office, would undoubtedly end in failure for the invaders, who would have to suffer enormous losses in the attempt.

MITCHELL SAYS SENTIMENT HOPEFUL Chicago, January 16, (The Associated Press)—Mitchell says: "Sentiment is more hopeful there, not enthusiastic. Railroad people take more cheerful view of their prospects. Baltimore and Ohio trusts in reducing dividends only 1 per cent. though they could afford to take a chance on an improvement in business. We are making most loans at 5 per cent. A list of names of eastern commercial borrowers offered here."

JAPAN BUYS MUCH COPPER New York, January 16.—We understand Japan has just purchased in this market 25,000,000 pounds copper, and taken option upon another large lot. This is some surmise that this is in connection with a manufacture of arms and munitions of war for a country of Russia.

LONDON STOCKS WERE QUIET BUT TONE CONTINUES GOOD London, January 16.—Money on call was easy at 4 per cent. on account of government disbursements. Weekly loans were quoted 1 1/2 per cent. Bills were scarce and business was quiet in them at 2 per cent. The stock market was dull but good in tone. Yield on loans were firm and better prices are expected in them. Consols were in small request. American shares were inactive but steady. Canadian Pacific showed most activity.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STEADY. New York, January 16.—Foreign exchange open steady with demand sterling unchanged from Friday close. Sterling—Cables 4.84 5/16 to 4.84 3/4; demand 4.83 1/2. France—Cables 5.18 1/2; demand 5.19. Marks—Cables 87 1/2; demand 87 1/2.

ARREST BANK CLERK. London, Ont., January 16.—A clerk in the Merchant Bank at Medicine Hat, J. F. Sinden, was arrested here. He is alleged to have been short in his accounts.

CANADIAN CAR COMPANY. London, Eng., January 16.—Senator Curry, President of the Canadian Car and Foundry Company, is selling for home after having negotiated a contract with the Government of one of the Allies for the manufacture of war material on a large scale.

Reduce the Cost of Living this Winter By Burning It will last just as long as er and easier to handle. ELY SMOKELESS. Compare HARD COAL GAS COKE SAVING by using CO THIN K C. O. D. Phone Lasalle 397, Co

Montreal Light, Heat OR YOUR F