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3 BRITISH DESTROYERS ARE LOST WITH 193 LIVES

London, Dec. 29—Three British torpedo boat destroyers were sunk through being struck by torpedoes or hitting a mine off the Dutch coast on the night of December 22, with the loss of thirteen officers and 180 men. The admiralty announced this today as follows: "Three of our destroyers were mined or torpedoed during foggy weather off the Dutch coast on the night of the 22nd of December. A total of thirteen officers and 180 men were lost."

London Looks For An Offer To Allies

Believes Peace Proposals to Russia Opening Gun in Elaborate Campaign—Washington Determined To Go On To Victorious End

London, Dec. 28—That the Austro-German peace proposals to Russia are only the opening gun in an elaborate peace campaign by the Central Powers is the belief here. It is likely that the next step by Germany, according to well informed London opinion, will be a direct proposal to the Allies either through the Vatican or a neutral power.

The Russian government in the course of the next few days is expected to endeavor to get the German offer officially before the Entente Allies, but as a formal reply to it will involve a recognition of the Bolshevik government, it is doubtful whether any Entente government will make a reply.

Pan-Germans Disatisfied. Amsterdam, Dec. 29—Pan-German newspapers angrily condemn the peace terms of the Central Powers. The Tagliche Rundschau of Berlin says: "Never before have we given up so completely everything we so dearly bought with the blood of hundreds of thousands, with the sweat of millions, with the deprivations of our children, with our own hunger."

The Deutsche Zeitung says that the Entente has won the greatest victory of the war and that diplomats have discovered that there has been fought for the Entente a Zettling, of the other hand, regards the conditions as opening the door to a peace advantageous to all sides.

Washington Determined. New York, Dec. 29—Speaking within forty-eight hours after the receipt of the Kaiser's latest peace terms, Secretary of War Baker declared last night that the war would not end until all danger of a "triumphant barbarism" had been removed, until civilization had defeated savagery.

He brought prolonged cheers when he said: "I have no doubt of the outcome of this war; it would be irrelevant to doubt. The war may be long or short, I cannot tell; I have no means of knowing, but civilization will win against barbarism."

Report Resignation of Manager. Toronto, Dec. 29—Sporting editors here assume today that Charles Querrie has resigned the management of Toronto Hockey Club.

THE DOUGH



—N. Y. Evening Telegram.

Germans Withdraw Warships From Russian Waters

London, Dec. 28—The latest report on the Russian situation is to the effect that the greater portion of the German fleet in Russian waters has returned to German waters. The squadrons now, of course, are available for duty in the North Sea.

ZEPPELIN AND SEAPLANE ARE WRECKED IN THE NORTH SEA

London, Dec. 29—A Zeppelin and a seaplane accompanying it have been wrecked in the North Sea, according to a Central News despatch from Copenhagen, quoting advice received there from West Jutland. The Zeppelin is said to have fallen in flames to the sea.

Paris, Dec. 29—"There was nothing to report last night, with the exception of patrol encounters north of the Chemin Des Dames and near Sapignoul," says today's official statement.

"French aviation last night bombarded the railway station at Maloires Les Metz, and Thianville and German establishments in the vicinity of Vouliers British Report.

London, Dec. 29—There is nothing of special interest to report, says today's official communication from Field Marshal Haig.

With the Airman. London, Dec. 29—The following communication was issued this evening dealing with aerial operations on the western front:

"Snow storms on Thursday again made it impossible to do much flying. A hostile scout machine was downed inside our lines and the pilot taken prisoner. During the night our aeroplanes dropped 240 bombs on four enemy aeroplanes around Roulers and on hostile billets south of Lille. Several trains also were bombed. A direct hit was obtained on one of them. None of our machines is missing."

HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE IN OTTAWA

Ottawa, Dec. 29—The Borbridge block at the corner of Rideau and Mosgrove streets was gutted by fire this morning, causing a loss of over \$175,000.

THE WAY GOING TO RUSSIAN COURIERS

Petrograd, Friday, Dec. 28—The British embassy authorizes the announcement that an agreement has been reached with the Bolshevik government to issue passports to couriers going to England, on condition that they perform only courier duty and return immediately.

The Moscow Bolshevik authorities have followed the example of those in Petrograd and have taken over all the private banks in Moscow.

NEWSPAPER MAN WINS FRENCH CROSS

Ottawa, Dec. 29—Lieutenant Rudolph Girard, a well known newspaper man, formerly translator in the House of Commons, who went overseas with forestry reinforcements six months ago, has received the French war cross for bravery under fire on the French front.

MAJOR-GENERAL CARSON GETS RUSSIAN DECORATION

Montreal, Dec. 29—Major-General Sir John Carson, who since his capture during the war, has been on service in England as a representative of the Canadian government, has received the Russian decoration of St. Stanislas, first class.

White Sox Away on March 13

Chicago, Dec. 29—The Chicago Americans will leave here on March 13 for Mineral Wells, Texas, on their spring training trip. President Comiskey so announced today.

Rehabilitation of Belgium

Washington, Dec. 29—Speedy rehabilitation of Belgium's economic structure after the war is being planned by prominent Belgians now in France, according to cable dispatches received at the Belgian legation here.

RECEIVED BY MAYOR

Mayor R. T. Hayes this morning received a check for \$618.55 from the congregation of the synagogue in Haasen avenue for the relief of the citizens of Halifax. This sum is in addition to \$150 recently sent by young ladies of that synagogue. Mayor Hayes also received three checks for the Victory loan: one was from W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd., and was for \$21,404.20, another from Yassie & Co., Ltd., for \$1,000, and the third from T. Rankine & Sons, Ltd., for \$100.

COULD NOT OPEN CITY SAFE

There was a mild commotion in city hall this morning when the united efforts of the staff of the chamberlain's office failed to open the safe. An expert was secured and he had to drill through the large steel door before he succeeded in opening it. One of the steel bolts of lock had snapped and made the combination useless.

Fulton and Tate Matched. Joplin, Mo., Dec. 29—Fred Fulton of Rochester, Minn., and Harry "Texas" Tate, of Nowata, Okla., last night were matched for a fifteen round bout here on January 10.

Roumanian King Said To Have Abdicated

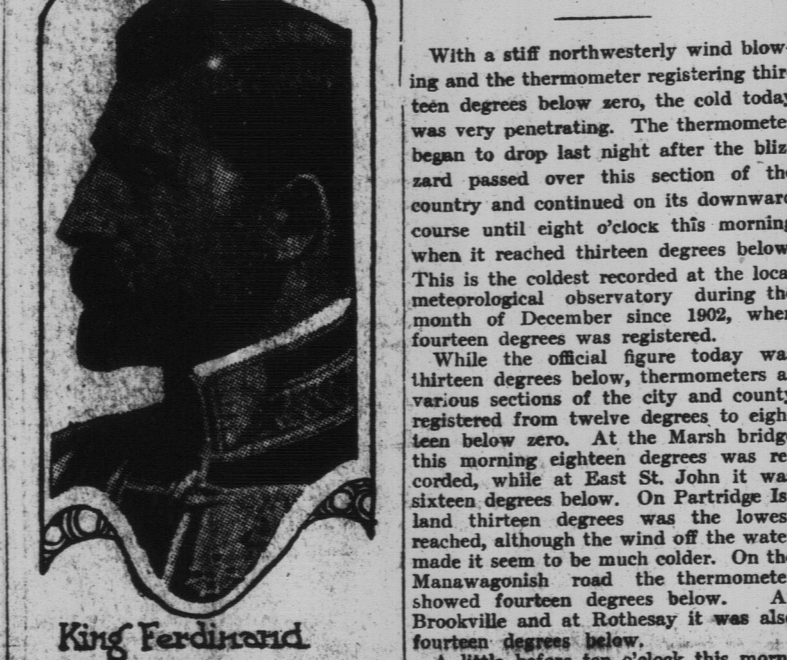
Crown Prince Charles Is Said To Be His Successor

PETROGRAD HEARS REPORT

There Had Been Rumors of Revolutionary Plot—Other Indications of Political Crisis—Crown Prince is 24 Years Old

Petrograd, Dec. 28—There are persistent rumors here that King Ferdinand of Roumania has abdicated in favor of Crown Prince Charles.

Disturbed conditions in Roumania were reported in a despatch from Petrograd.



THE COLDEST DECEMBER DAY IN 15 YEARS

Thirteen Below Is Official Record in City

Edmundston, With 37, Lowest Provincial Record Reported—Cold Very Severe in Upper Province—Coal Shortage in New York

With a stiff northerly wind blowing and the thermometer registering thirteen degrees below zero, the cold today was very penetrating. The thermometer began to drop last night after the blizzard passed over this section of the country and continued on its downward course until eight o'clock, this morning when it reached thirteen degrees below zero. This is the coldest recorded at the local meteorological observatory during the month of December since 1902, when fourteen degrees was registered.

While the official figure today was thirteen degrees below, thermometers at various sections of the city and county registered from twelve degrees to eighteen degrees below zero.

At the Marsh bridge this morning eighteen degrees was recorded, while at East St. John it was sixteen degrees below. On Partridge Island thirteen degrees was the lowest reached, although the wind off the water made it seem to be much colder. On the Miramichi, near the thermometer showed fourteen degrees below. At Brookville and at Robesay it was also fourteen degrees below.

A fifteen degree cold this morning the mercury began to rise and hovered between eleven and eight below. Many citizens suffered from frost bites on their faces and noses.

During the storm last night the wind reached a velocity of forty miles an hour and one and a half inches of snow fell. The thermometer showed several degrees above zero, but soon after ten o'clock began to drop.

Owing to the extreme cold weather, people throughout the city left their kitchen taps running in order to keep the water from freezing, and as a result millions of gallons of water is being wasted. During the last twenty-four hours the meter at the water-works department showed an increase of 1,500,000 gallons of water consumed.

Reports by Western Union from various maritime province points show: North Sydney—Northwest, snow flurry; Halifax—16 above at 10 a.m.; Moncton—Snow flurries, northeast winds, drifting, 5 below; Chatham—Moderate calm, 10 below; St. Stephen—20 below; Fredericton—Fine, 22 below; Edmundston—37 below, clear; Andover—25 below at 8 a.m., clear; Woodstock—28 below at 8 a.m.

URGES NATIONALIZATION OF CANADIAN RAILROADS

Toronto, Dec. 29—The World today publishes a double column front page editorial urging the nationalization of Canada's railways.

PRESBYTERY MEETING

At a special meeting of the Presbytery of St. John yesterday afternoon the resignation of Rev. A. J. Langlois of Lorneville was accepted. Those present were Rev. F. S. Dowling, Rev. R. H. Staver, Rev. J. MacKilgan, Rev. W. M. Townsend, Rev. James Ross, Rev. H. C. Fraser, Rev. F. W. Thompson and Rev. A. J. Langlois.

A letter from St. Francis mission field was read, asking for the services of G. R. Sutherland for a year dating from Jan. 1. Rev. W. M. Townsend was appointed moderator of the visitation committee of Norton and H. C. McLeod will continue the services at the Edith avenue mission hall in East St. John during the winter months.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, Director of Meteorological Service

Four U-Boats Are Captured; One Sunk; Another Surrenders

American Destroyers Sweep Down on Quartette Lying on Surface of Ocean; Passenger Steamer Accounts for Other and Sixth, Out of Supplies, Gives Up

Boston, Dec. 29—Four German submarines were captured recently by twelve American destroyers, according to an American seaman who reached his home here from a French port. The seaman—a former Boston newspaper man—was aboard a troop ship at the French port recently, he said, when the destroyers steamed in with their prizes. The submarines were lying on the surface of the ocean, with their conning towers open, during the process of recharging their batteries, when the American destroyers swept down upon them and took them prisoners without a fight.

While the transport was still at the French port, the seaman said, a German U-boat entered the harbor with a white flag flying from her periscope. The enemy crew explained that they had been lying in waiting for the troop ship in the open sea, and that when they failed to find her and the supplies ran low, the crew mutinied, killed the commander, and decided to surrender.

A DIRECT HIT. London, Dec. 28—A German submarine was sunk by the fire of guns of an American passenger steamer approaching the British coast on Thursday, according to reports from passengers and gunners aboard.

The ship was proceeding at full speed about noon in a very smooth sea. The weather conditions were such as to make the best visibility. A periscope was sighted by the watch on the bridge and the submarine was seen plainly by the passengers as it came to the surface at a distance of about 1,500 yards directly in the wake of the ship.

The steamer was brought about sharply and the two guns took a shot with only an interval of two seconds between. The second shell exploded and debris from the submarine was seen flying in the air. Afterwards no trace of the submarine was visible. The convoy signalled to the liner: "A direct hit."

CAUGHT JUST IN TIME. Washington, Dec. 29—Full details of the destruction of a German submarine by American destroyers and the capture of its crew, made public today by the navy department, shows that the destroyers Fanning and Nicholson were the warships engaged. The incident was reported on November 24, but few facts were given at the time. The submarine was sunk, the navy department's story of the affair indicates, as it was preparing to attack a merchant ship flotilla convoyed by the destroyers.

DRIVER W. J. WHIPPLE IS VERY ILL IN A HOSPITAL IN ENGLAND

Mrs. Walter Whipple of 47 Clarence street has received word from Sister Constance Scott of the Canadian Red Cross Society that her husband, Driver W. J. Whipple, is very ill in the Ontario Military Hospital, Kent County, England, but they are in hope that with special treatment he will soon improve. The best care and attention are given him.

FOR QUICKER RELEASE OF NEEDED FREIGHT CARS

Ottawa, Dec. 29—An order-in-council has been passed, upon the recommendation of the food controller, to prevent unnecessary delay in the unloading or re-shipment of food or food products in freight cars.

It provides that no freight car containing such products shall be allowed to remain under load at its destination for more than four days after notice of its arrival has been given by the railway company to the consignee. When any such car is detained for a longer period the railway company is required to notify the food controller.

NATIONALIZE PRIVATE BANKS IN RUSSIA

London, Dec. 29—A Petrograd despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that the central executive of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates has approved the proposal of the commissaires nationalizing private banks, under which banking will become a state monopoly. The state bank will take over and amalgamate all private banks.

The executive also authorized a decree empowering the authorities to examine the safes of depositors in the depositories' presence. Gold coin and bullion in safes will be confiscated and depositors resisting the decree will be liable to forfeit the contents of their safes. Savings of the middle classes are safeguarded.

CHARGE AGAINST NEWSPAPER MAN IN ONTARIO FAILS

Brookville, Ont., Dec. 29—Geo. Mason, proprietor of the Prescott Journal, was found not guilty and discharged yesterday. He had been charged with wilfully and knowingly publishing an article criticizing the military service act. Federal military officials instituted the prosecution.

ARREST FOLLOWS FATAL EXPLOSION ON A TANKER

New Orleans, La., Dec. 29—Department of justice agents here yesterday arrested Hugo H. Ryling, alleged to be a German, on charges connected with an explosion on a tank steamer last Sunday in which one man was killed and five others injured. Ryling was employed on the tanker, the authorities said, and was posing as a Belgian.

Rumor of Food Cards in Canada Not Heard at Controller's Office

Ottawa, Dec. 29—The food controller's office today announced that nothing was known there in regard to the rumored intention of the government to issue food cards and to place restrictions on purchases. No steps in this direction have yet been taken.