

Weather Forecast for Today
Increasing winds, mostly easterly
and southerly, chiefly cloudy with
snow or sleet, stationary or higher
temperature.

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VOLUME XV

NANAIMO, VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1915

NUMBER 257

SAYS ASQUITH HAS DONE WELL

New York Herald Pays High
Tribute to the Work Done
by the Asquith Ministry in
the Great War.

New York, Dec. 30.—The Herald
commenting on the British parlia-
mentary situation, says:

"Of course, it may be accepted as
a fact that the impending political
crisis in Great Britain will not, in
any sense, diminish the determination
of the British people to pursue the
war to a successful conclusion.

"Despite the attacks which have
been made upon it, the Asquith min-
istry has done well. It has borne
the weight of which, if they
could have been foreseen at the out-
break of the war, would have caused
men's cheeks to blanch, and every-
one to say, 'It is impossible.' It has
held the seas; it has raised nearly
four million men for fighting; it has
financed the war not only for the em-
pire, but for the other nations; it
has armed Russia and given her other
assistance; it has cleared Africa of
the Germans. With the assistance of
France it has stopped Germany and
Austria at every point except in the
Balkans, and held Paris, the Channel
and the United Kingdom safe.

"More than a year ago the North-
cliffe newspapers were showing how
inevitable the capture of Calais and
a German invasion of England were.
They were of short memory. If Brit-
ain could produce cabinets which
would never make any mistakes either
in peace or war, in diplomacy or
finance, she would rule both hemi-
spheres for all time.

"But in spite of the work performed
by the Asquith ministry and Lord
Kitchener, it is proposed to turn
them out and enter upon untried
paths with new pathfinders. It is
much to be doubted whether this un-
examined attack will succeed.

"The chief harm that can come as
a result of this washing of dirty lin-
en is its effect, first, upon the other
members of the cabinet; second, up-
on the enemy at Berlin; and, third,
upon friends in this and other neu-
tral countries. It is to be expected
that the effect upon France, Russia,
and Italy has already been discounte-
ned. It will, perhaps, make no differ-
ence with them, but should by any
chance the conspiracy succeed, it will
be necessary to have the most posi-
tive guarantee that activity will be
increased rather than diminished. A
weight of responsibility would go up-
on the shoulders of the new ministry
that would certainly be doubted and
which those responsible would shrink
because they are trained only in
fault-finding.

"But the effect on Germany would
be a different matter. A change in
ministry in Great Britain would be
hailed, as in fact the signs have al-
ready been hailed, as a weakening, as
a desire on the part of the greatest
and most-hated enemy of Germany to
sue for peace. This would be giving
encouragement to the foe with a ven-
geance. It is much to be deplored,
because the German public has been
fed constantly with the idea that
peace is at hand—always at hand—
whereas it is further away than ever.
Here, too, the news that Mr. As-
quith and his cabinet were out would
be used to mislead and depress. What-
ever may be the official attitude of
the American government, the sym-
pathies of the great mass of the public
are passionately with the entente al-
lies and against their enemies.

"So that the friends of the cause of
humanity and civilization should bear
in mind that, whatever happens, it
does not mean a cessation of the war.
Any Britisher who suggested
that would not be simply turned out,
he would be hanged to a lamp post."

RAISED SHIPPING RATES

London, Dec. 30.—The recent men-
ace to shipping by way of the Suez
Canal, both from land and by sub-
marine, has caused the underwriters
to raise insurance rates on cargoes
and steamers following the Canal
route.

FORD PARTY EN ROUTE

Stockholm, Dec. 30.—Occupying a
special train the Ford Peace Party
left today for Copenhagen where it
is due on Friday. The manager of
the party is still perplexed as to how
it shall proceed later to The Hague
but hopes to make arrangements in
Copenhagen where members will re-
main, probably a week.

LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE

London, Dec. 30.—The La-
bor Party today called a
Trades Union Congress for
January 6 to consider the
Government proposal regard-
ing compulsion for single
men.

PAID TRIBUTES TO SIR RICHARD MCBRIDE

Victoria, Dec. 30.—One of the most
effective speeches ever delivered by
Sir Richard McBride was made in re-
ply to the toast of his health, at the
public luncheon tendered under Board
of Trade auspices yesterday afternoon
at the Empress Hotel. When the ex-
Premier concluded, the audience rose
and heartily cheered him. Hon. Col.
Prior, in introducing the guest of the
day alluded to the courtesy, tact and
consideration shown by the former
Premier in office and said that while
Sir Richard had the affection of his
political supporters he had also in-
spired the respect of his political op-
ponents. In going to London, Sir Ri-
chard would be the right man in the
right place.

Mayor Stewart spoke of the friend-
ly feelings which prevail in the ex-
Premier's relations with the 'City
Council. As a native son, a British
Columbian and a Canadian, Victor-
ians rejoiced in his selection to suc-
ceed Hon. Mr. Turner.

Sir Richard said that the remarks
of the speakers and the kindly expres-
sions that had been directed to him
were more than a generous reward
for such services as he had been able
to render to British Columbia.

"In my various associations with
public affairs in this province," he
added, "it has unquestionably been
my experience to meet with persons
who held many and varied political
views, but I have always endeavored
to feel that, as a public servant, my
first duty to my country has been to
serve the people regardless of political
differences."

He said that the luncheon was in
itself a proof of the kindness and en-
thusiasm with which British Colum-
bians approached every question they
undertook. Any compliments they
had paid him on account of his per-
sonality were compliments which, in
his opinion, could be readily extended
to every public man in the coun-
try. "I think," he said, "they are
characteristics of a western man."

(Applause). His environment is an
inspiration to good work.

"I have an abiding confidence in
what lies before the Province of Brit-
ish Columbia. We have been pass-
ing, during the last three years,
through a pressure greater, perhaps
than any part of Canada, but I have
confidence in the ability of the prov-
ince, economically, socially and oth-
erwise, to stand the test.

"Of the contribution in men and
means which British Columbia has
given to the great cause of the Allies
—I would be un-Canadian, un-British
to compare one community with an-
other—still, I think, we can readily
claim that the standard measures up
in every way to the country's duty."

(Applause).

Sir Richard went on to speak of
the helpfulness of criticism "because
by it those who are responsible for pub-
lic works are put on their metal and
give more efficient and more careful
service to the country. I wish to say
that all the policies, all the works,
and all the actions for which I must
stand responsible, were well thought-
out, carefully conceived and in the
years to come they will bear fruit to
their justification."

The ex-Premier went on to speak
of his services and of his confidence
in the country. "In leaving British
Columbia," he said, "I feel that there
is no man here who can say he has
been wronged in any fashion by me."

Unquestionably he had made enemies,
but he was willing to meet them in
the open and learn in what manner
they were aggrieved. Sir Richard
spoke of his affection for Victoria
and of his love for his native prov-
ince.

Speaking of his new position in
London he pointed to its importance
and added:

"I have been responsible directly
for the introduction of a large amount
of capital into British Columbia,
and I am now going to counsel with
the owners, to strengthen and to in-
spire more confidence in the resources
of British Columbia." (Applause).

Sir Richard concluded by thanking
the public men, from the lieutenant-

GERMAN FORCE WAS WIPE OUT

Russian Fusiliers Tricked Ger-
mans on Riga Front — Few
Germans Escaped From the
Slaughter—Mowed Down by
Own Machine Guns.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.—The Christmas
Day boast by Germans on the Riga
front made by means of a banner
hoisted on the trenches saying "Mer-
ry Christmas, we will be in Riga New
Years Day," was answered by a raid
of Lettish fusiliers Christmas night,
in which three companies of Germans
were wiped out. The Letts were able
to trick the Germans by knowledge of
the German language. After night-
fall a company of Letts gained the
rear of the German trenches and fired
a rocket signal when their feat was
accomplished. A Russian armored
motor car then approached the trench-
es and opened fire on the Germans.
Letts in the rear then yelled out in
German "Back, back, the Russians
are coming." Thereupon the Ger-
mans fell back toward their supposed
comrades who met them with rifle
fire. In confusion few Germans escap-
ed. Occupying the vacated trenches,
the Letts sang "Watch on the Rhine"
and awaited the approach of German
reinforcements. The unsuspecting Ger-
man reinforcements were mowed down
from the trenches by the machine
guns their comrades had left behind.

ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT OF ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

St. Luke's Sunday School, North-
field, will hold their Annual Tea and
Entertainment on Monday, January
3rd, 1916, in Duggan's Hall.

Tea will be served for Sunday
School members at 5 o'clock.

The following program will be ren-
dered at 8 p.m., for which an admis-
sion will be charged, viz., Adults 15
cents; non-Sunday School children 5
cents:

Carol Sunday School
Recitation "Father's Shave,"
..... Mary Leighton
Dialogue, "Not Quite a Bargain,"
Glady Baldwin, Mildred McGarrigle
Song Johnny Ellis
Maple Leaf School
Dialogue, "Jealous Jane,"
Jessie Ferguson, Hazel Doward
Recitation Jean Russell
Drill Six Girls
Song John Ganderton
Sketch, "Trials of a Canvasser,"
..... Eight Characters
"Britannia," School
Action Sleepy Song Five Girls
Dialogue, "Two in a Fog,"
Dorothy McIntyre, Bobby Leighton
God Save the King.

ARE BRANDED AS BRITAIN'S ENEMIES

London, Dec. 30.—Great Britain's
black list of shipping now shows the
names of 102 steamers with a gross
tonnage of 80,000 and a carrying
capacity of 200,000 tons. The list
is published to guide British ship-
pers from using vessels which are
suspected of trading with Great
Britain's enemies or other unneutral
service or of being German owned.

The blacklisted vessels owned in
countries are apportioned as fol-
lows: United States 11, Norway 38,
Sweden 37, Denmark 8, Spain 1,
Holland 4 and Brazil 3.

The American vessels are the Al-
laguash, Ausable, Genesee, Hocking,
Kankakee, Manitowoc, Maimie, Se-
neca, Vinnebago, Winnebconne and
Muskegon.

ENEMY CONSULS ARRESTED

London, Dec. 30.—A despatch to
the Times from Saloniki says: "The
Consuls of Germany, Austria, Tur-
key and Bulgaria with their staffs
and families, have been arrested by
order of the French general Sarraill
and taken aboard French warships.
Their consulates are now occupied
by allied troops."

governor downwards, with whom his
public life had been associated. His
successor he described as a man with
an energetic personality, while in Mr.
Brewster the country had a man es-
teemed and respected everywhere.



J. W. FLAVELLE,
Chairman of the British Army Munitions Board in Canada.

TWELVE DUELS FOUGHT IN AIR

London, Dec. 30.—An official state-
ment issued tonight, reads: "Yester-
day sixteen of our aeroplanes bom-
barded Comines station and hit the
station lines and sheds in that vicin-
ity. Ten of our aeroplanes attacked
heavily an aerodrome and did con-
siderable damage. In both cases all
machines returned safely.

"During the day there were twelve
encounters with hostile aeroplanes.
One of our machines engaged four of
the enemy's, one of which is believed
to have been brought down. Another
was damaged, and all four were driv-
en off. One of our aeroplanes was
brought down as the result of a com-
bat with two machines.

"During the night the enemy heav-
ily shelled our trenches south of
Fricourt. A few Germans entered
one of our front trenches, but were
immediately driven out.

"The weather has been fine. Our
artillery has been active at several
places. On the front north of Ypres
there has been activity on both sides.

CONSTABLE WALLBANK JOINS THE COLORS

Constable Harold Wallbank of
the City Police Force has been
granted leave of absence and has
enlisted with the 88th Fusiliers
for active service at the front.

Constable Wallbank made his
last beat on the police force (at
least for a time) last night and ex-
pects to leave for Victoria in a few
days to join the regiment.

Constable Wallbank in enlisting
for active service has shown an ex-
ample which it is expected others
in and outside the police force of
the city will follow. Mr. Wallbank
is an old soldier, having served eight
years in the artillery branch of the
service. He saw service in India
and fought through the South Afri-
can War.

Constable Wallbank has been a
most efficient and respected police
officer and his many friends in Na-
naimo feel assured that by reasons
of his previous soldier's experience
and strength of character he will not
long remain a private in the ranks.

BOMB EXPLODED ABOARD STEAMER

New York, Dec. 30.—The steam-
ship Bankdale arrived today from
Bordeaux after a tempestuous voy-
age during which fittings and rails
were carried away and lifeboats
lifted from their fastenings.

On the outward voyage to Bor-
deaux, on Nov. 19, when the vessel
was 750 miles from that port, a
bomb exploded in No. 6 hatch. The
cargo, consisting of cotton, was set
on fire and the blaze raged until the
vessel reached port. All the cotton
in the No. 6 compartment, consist-
ing of 200 bales, was destroyed.

Cable dispatches received here on
Nov. 26 from Bordeaux stated that
the Bankdale had arrived there with
a fire in her hold and that an in-
quiry was being instituted. No men-
tion was made in the cable dis-
patches of a bomb explosion on
board.

BIG RESERVE OF MUNITIONS

When Time Comes Allies
Will Maintain an Unprece-
dented Rain of Death Upon
German Positions From
Coast to Switzerland.

New York, Dec. 30.—A cable to
the Herald from London says:

"Three months since the sharp and
successful offensive in late Septem-
ber have seen a remarkable, rapid
accumulation of reserve man and
munitions on the western front, in
preparation for the next general
advance. Expenditure in shells has
been even less than during the sum-
mer, if conditions may be judged ac-
curately from official communica-
tions and aside from activity at
Hartmanns-Wellerkopf where com-
paratively small forces are engaged,
men have been called on for little
real fighting.

"While expenditure—human and
material—has been at a minimum,
production of all but necessities has
been at a maximum. France and
Britain have been working their
fully mobilized steel plants night and
day and it is estimated that out
of every three shells two have gone
into the reserve supply, and will be
used when the time comes to main-
tain an unprecedented rain of death
on German positions from Nieuport
to Switzerland. Into the reservoir
of men has gone large proportion of
new units which will receive their
real baptism of fire in the next big
push."

SUPPER AND CONCERT ON SATURDAY NIGHT

The local Salvation Army Corps
will hold its Annual New Year's En-
tertainment on Saturday night, con-
sisting of a supper and concert. Ald.
Busby will be chairman. The supper
starting at 5:30 and the concert at 8
o'clock; the price of admission for
both being only 25 cents. The pro-
gram is as follows:

Glee "Hail Smiling Morn," Songsters
Recitation "In the Snow"
..... Miss L. Manifold
Song, "Daddy," Master Westlake
Recitation Master D. Manson
Song, "Mamma's Boy" Gerty Dent
Song, "Good Luck to the Boys of
the Allies," Miss M. Cree
Violin Selection Mr. W. Mason
Song—When the Stern Harsh Voice
of Duty," Master Dent
Recitation, "John Halliday's Little
Lad," Mrs. E. Taylor
Song Miss Lythgoe
Recitation Master D. Manson
Song, "Till the Boys Come Home,"
..... Mrs. F. Dawkin
Anthem, "Cry Out and Shout,"
..... Songsters

DUAL MONARCHY RENT IN TWAIN

London, Dec. 30.—The Budapest
correspondent of the Post, in a let-
ter, states that the old enmity be-
tween Austria and Hungary has
burst into a fresh flame, and that
even the pretense of unity which ex-
isted has disappeared since the
time when the Austrians offended
the Hungarians by removing the Hun-
garian flag at a fortress at Bel-
grade.

The seriousness of the present
quarrels is instanced by the parlia-
mentary activities of the Indepen-
dence party, which, despite the en-
treaties of the premier, have been
airing the Hungarian grievances.

Herr Urmanczy, a leader of the
Independence party, in a recent
fiery speech, declared that the ad-
vantages gained in the war were
largely due to German generalship
and Hungarian bravery, and added
that Austrian generalship and mar-
tial spirit had had nothing to do
with them. If everyone had done
the same amount of work and
shown the same heroism and sacri-
fice as the Hungarians, they would
be enjoying peace by this time,
Urmanczy said.

Although the Hungarians had won
the praise of their arch-enemies, the
Italians, he said, the Austrians had
shown no appreciation and they
had to face continually the brutal
behavior of the Austrian officers.

CONSCRIPTION BILL

London, Dec. 30.—It was
announced this evening that
Premier Asquith would in-
troduce in the House of Com-
mons on Wednesday next a
bill dealing with compulsion.

PREPARING BILL FOR CONSCRIPTION

London, Dec. 30.—An audience
which Premier Asquith had with
the King yesterday gave rise to re-
ports of actual cabinet resignations.
It is stated, however, on the best
authority this was not the case and
Premier Asquith saw the King with
reference to the general situation
and New Year's honors.

The Draft Committee of the
cabinet, which is said to include
Sir John Simon, engaged in pre-
paring the proposed bill, is reported
to have rejected two or three drafts
already but has now virtually settled
on a method which will be to make
the Derby scheme statutory and
only for the duration of the war.
Men who have not attested will be
ordered to enroll themselves within
a given period of a fortnight or
three weeks. It is said the Govern-
ment is confident of its ability to
pass the bill through all stages in a
fortnight, that is several days before
parliament would die a natural
death but for the prolonging of its
life. This bill has still to run the
gauntlet of its final stages and if
obstructive tactics should be adopted
regarding the compulsory re-
cruiting measure it might still be
possible for the ministers to re-
sort to a general election as an
exit from the difficult situation.
This, however, is not regarded as
probable. In fact the feeling in the
political quarters are more con-
fident than ever the crisis will en-
tail no resignations of importance.
The fact the King returned to Sand-
ringham last night seems to con-
firm this view.

PATRIOTIC SMOKING CONCERT

IN ASSEMBLY HALL
The Smoking Concert given last
night in the Assembly Hall by the
employees of the Western Fuel Co., in
aid of the Patriotic Fund, was a
huge success from an entertaining
standpoint, but the attendance was
not as large as might have been ex-
pected. Ald. Ferguson made an ef-
ficient chairman, and a lengthy pro-
gram was exceedingly well rendered
and much appreciated.

The committee wishes to thank the
artists who took part; Mayor Platts
for the use of the hall, and the Uni-
on Brewing Co., W. E. Rummung,
Maher & Co., the Cuban and Enter-
prise Cigar factories, and Mr. J. K.
Hickman.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS ARRESTED.
Rotterdam, Dec. 30.—The Berlin
Vorwarts announces the arrest for
high treason of ten German social-
ists, including a woman named Clara
Zataen. They are charged with en-
gaging in a peace propaganda.

CONSIGNEES THURSDAY

J. Grayson, Whitty Bros., W. H.
Ganner, J. S. Knarston, G. S. Pear-
son, M. A. Rowe, J. H. Malpass, F.
Wagstaff, Workman's Co-Op., Thomp-
son & Cowie, Y. Wada, S. Ueno, J.
A. Humphreys, Yick Chong, C. Cor-
nish, L. Manson, W. Brown, C. F.
Bryant, N. J. Nagai, Hop Lung, Im-
perial Oil Co., Western Fuel Co., D.
Spencer J. Wata, J. Prevodis, D.
Mottishaw, Rawlinson & Glaholm, J.
Wallace, D. H. Beckley, A. J. Smith,
E. Quennell, C. Piper, Union Brewery
Mr. Kashio, J. Hirst, P. Burns J.
Jackson, W. Jarvie.

PENFIELD RECEIVES AUSTRIAN REPLY

Washington, Dec. 30.—Ambassador
Penfield, at Vienna, has received
Austria's reply to the second Ameri-
can note regarding the sinking of
the liner Ancona. An official an-
nouncement to that effect was made
by Secretary Lansing today.

Ambassador Penfield reported that
the reply was about three thousand
words in length, and that consid-
erable time would be necessary to
place the communication in code in
the embassy in Vienna. There was
nothing in his dispatch to indicate
the tenor of the reply. Officials of
the state department believe the
note will arrive about Saturday.

FRENCH ARTILLERY FIRE EFFECTIVE

German Munition Depot in
Esnoalges Sector Destroyed—
German Battery Silenced
North of Soissons —
Enemy Attack With Gren-
ades Repulsed.

Paris, Dec. 30.—The following offi-
cial communication was issued to-
night:

In Artois our artillery exploded a
munitions depot to the southwest of
Bourains. Between the Aves and
Oise our trench guns were active in
energetically bombarding enemy works
and destroying a munitions depot in
the sector of Beuvraignes. Between
the Oise and Aisne our batteries de-
stroyed Machine gun shelters near
Bailly.

"To the north of Soissons the fire
of our artillery, directed by aero-
planes, silenced and damaged a Ger-
man battery.
"In the Vosges, the cannonade was
very active during the course of the
day, especially in the regions of Hart-
manns-Wellerkopf, Metzeral and Lange-
One of our shells caused in the wood
to the north of Muhlbach, Valley
Fecht, five successive and powerful
explosions. In the region of Reibel-
sen, a German attack with grenades
was easily repulsed.

GERMAN RUSH TO WESTERN FRONT

Paris, Dec. 30.—The official state-
ment issued today says:

"West of Peronne the enemy was
repulsed in an attempt to capture
one of our saps in front of Dom-
plere.

"In Champagne, in the region of
the Navarin farm, our artillery pre-
vented the enemy from repairing
trenches which were demolished on
the night of Dec. 28-29.

"Elsewhere there was nothing to
report."

Berlin, Dec. 30.—Heavy fighting
continues in the Vosges. Announce-
ment is made by the war office that
positions near Hartmanns-Weller-
kopf have been regained by the
Germans. A British surprise attack
near Lille failed.

The statement runs in part:
"Southeast of Albert we captured
a few dozen Englishmen in a night
attack.

"Enemy aeroplanes bombarded
Wervicq and Menin, killing seven
civilians and wounding a child. No
military damage was done."

The Hague, Dec. 30.—Dispatches
received here state that 30,000 Ger-
man soldiers are arriving daily in
Belgium. Trainloads of artillery
also are en route to various Belgian
bases. These are taken as indica-
tions of Germany's plan to attempt
a big offensive along the front in
Belgium and France.

PREPARED FOR HALF MILLION WOUNDED

Paris, Dec. 30.—There are 500,000
beds in the military and auxiliary
hospitals of France.

The cost of their maintenance is
1,000,000 francs (\$200,000) daily.
This figure, however, gives no idea
of the expenditure per patient, for
the number varies constantly and a
considerable proportion of the beds
are always empty.

American contributions for French
hospital and ambulance work have
exceeded 6,000,000 francs (\$1,200,000).
About 80,000 francs (\$16,000,000)
have been spent in France thus far
by three Red Cross societies. At
present they are maintaining 115,000
beds, in 1,200 hospitals, at an out-
lay of between 4,000,000 (\$800,000)
and 5,000,000 (\$1,000,000) francs
monthly.

The Society for the Aid of Wound-
ed Soldiers, the principal Red Cross
organization, started with 7,000,000
francs (\$1,400,000) at the begin-
ning of the war. The remainder of
its expenditures and those of the two
other societies have been met by
charitable contributions.

It is estimated that not more than
1,000,000 wounded have been cared
for thus far in France.