

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XV., No. 76.

PAGES ONE TO EIGHT.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1918

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT.

News of "The Buffs" Is Brought on Melita

Regiment That Was Popular in St. John—Experiences of Some Returned Men, Including One Who Was on Torpedoed Laconia

With some 1,200 officers and other ranks on board the C. P. O. S. Melita arrived in port this morning and docked at No. 2 and 3 berths, Sand Point.

The officers reported that the passage out was good with the exception of two days when it was quite rough. During the voyage nothing of special interest occurred.

When the steamer docked the C. P. R. sent five trains ready to carry the passengers to their destinations.

Regarding the other officers of the "Buffs" the captain said that when the battalion was broken up in England all the officers reverted to lower ranks and went to France.

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Among the passengers on the steamer Melita today was Major Ronald A. McAvity, a member of the first contingent, who returns home for the first time since he left the city more than four years ago.

Major McAvity, who had been active in the 62nd militia regiment, was among the first to offer his services when war was declared.

Another young Canadian who is returning to his home in Toronto is Captain R. E. Gunn of Toronto, who left here with the "Buffs," was a passenger on the steamer.

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Called Canadians A Rabble Force

Germany Had Nearly Convinced Belgian People Soon Found Difference When Our Troops Occupied Mons and Other Cities—Tribute From Mons Mayor

Ottawa, Dec. 18.—(By John W. Daffoe) The inter-Allied conference will open at Paris about the first of the new year. One of the most important committees dealing with peace matters is that appointed to consider the proposed league of nations.

The Canadian ministers have been engaged in important discussions respecting the post-war and distribution of the world's food supply during next year or eighteen months.

After the Canadians entered Mons, the mayor said, "we began to realize how callous were the lies the Germans had circulated that no action whatever had been taken by the government."

Fought at Gallipoli, in Egypt and on West

Newfoundland Regiment's Casualties 3,757 out of 6,372. With 1,150 Killed

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 18.—Of 6,372 men accepted for service in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment there was a total of 3,757 casualties, including 1,150 killed, up to the signing of the armistice.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Ratification of the prohibition amendment, the federal constitution by the necessary vote of three-fourths of the states by next February 1, is predicted in a survey of the prohibition situation made public by the board of the states.

Shell making operations in the big munition works of T. McAvity & Sons, Limited, Marsh road, gradually are reaching an end under the arrangement made when the armistice was signed.

Halifax, Dec. 18.—It is announced in military orders that Lieut.-Colonel W. Almon, Major Charles R. Grant, Captain Newell, and Lieut. J. H. Wiggins, all of the artillery service here, and Major Dickson, of the Royal Canadian Regiment, will probably proceed from here after the first of the year for Siberia to join the Canadian expeditionary force there.

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Premier's Christmas With Soldiers From Canada In Germany

Hon. C. J. Doherty Representing Canada on League of Nations Committee—Meeting of Canadian Mission

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Statement Made By Hon. N. W. Rowell

Matter of Bourassa Demand and His Own Relations With Sir Wilfrid Laurier

Bowmanville, Ont., Dec. 18.—An address explaining his personal position and his relations with Sir Wilfrid Laurier was delivered here last night by Hon. N. W. Rowell, president of the Privy Council and M. P. for Durham.

A part of Mr. Rowell's speech was devoted to a reply to Henri Bourassa's demand in Le Devoir that Mr. Rowell should apologize for "the calumnious statements made at North Bay nearly a year ago on the French-speaking clergy of Canada."

"The last of these stories to which I shall refer is that the Liberals who entered the Union government were guilty of treason to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and that I entered the Union government because I was disappointed because I could not take the place of Sir Wilfrid as leader of the Liberal party in the dominion."

Ontario, Dec. 18.—Referring to rumors that he is to be appointed head of a new public department, known as the department of public welfare, Hon. N. W. Rowell said today that no action whatever had yet been taken by the government in this regard.

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New York, Dec. 18.—The first flight in what is expected to be a daily mail service between New York and Chicago, began at 1:30 a. m. today, when Leon D. Smith took to the air at Belmont Park, Long Island. His biplane carries 400 pounds of mail.

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Toronto Police Are on Strike

Nearly 400 of The 500 Members of Force Out Thirteen Were Dismissed

Toronto, Dec. 18.—Three hundred and eighty-five of the 600 members of the Toronto police force are on strike this morning as the result of the dismissal of thirteen officials of the "police union," which the commissioners have declined to recognize because of its affiliation with the Trades and Labor Council—Plans to Meet The Situation

About ninety inspectors, sergeants and "inside" men are on duty today, but there are no uniformed constables or plain clothes detectives in the streets. Arrangements have been made for special constables to assist those who are remaining on duty, and the military police will be augmented.

Nova Scotia Liberals Confer in Halifax

Announcement Says That Any Division That Existed Has Disappeared

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Stefansson Pleads That The Eskimo Be Left Uncivilized

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Patrol Wagon Balks

The police patrol motor wagon refused duty this morning and the more it was cranked the crankier it got. The patrol had been brought to the police station and left standing outside. When the official driver of the car came to start it he found this impossibility.

Halifax Officers For Siberian Service

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SIR ROBERT AT DOWNING STREET CONFERENCE

WEATHER REPORT

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