

British Cross Rhine.

PRINCE OF WALES TO VISIT DOMINIONS.

Fatal Fire on C. P. R. Train---Heavy Weather Damage Atlantic Steamers---Uprising in Bulgaria.

ACROSS THE RHINE.

COLOGNE, Dec. 17. The British and Canadian armies crossed the Rhine on four bridges. The Canadian division passed over on a boat bridge. The weather was extremely wet and spoiled the picturesque spectacle. The crossing began at nine in the morning and continued till late afternoon. The spectacle was witnessed by large numbers who were deeply impressed by the magnificent fitness and the marching of the men, the excellent condition of the transport and horses.

NO RECORDS MISSING.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 17. Mr. Mueller in presenting the report of the Executive Committee to the Congress of Soldiers' and Workmen's Councils, announced that Karl Liebknecht had examined the documents of the German Foreign Office and had been unable to find that any had been removed. He confirmed the report of the resignation of Dr. Seif, the Foreign Minister, had been accepted by the Government.

PRINCE OF WALES' TOUR.

LONDON, Dec. 17. The latest battle cruisers are being refitted for the purpose of the Prince of Wales' imperial tour. It is the intention of King George to extend his Dominion by this tour to the deep consciousness of the great war which have rendered during the tour to the mother country and the empire.

WILL VISIT PARIS.

PARIS, Dec. 17. Lord Lloyd George, the British Premier, will arrive in Paris next week. After a short stay in the capital, Mr. Lloyd George will proceed to the Riviera for a few days' rest.

CALLED TO THE COLORS.

BERNE, Switzerland, Dec. 17. According to despatches received from the Polish general staff has called to the mobilization of the classes from 1883 to 1910. It is estimated that the mobilization will require the colors 1,500,000 men.

WELCOMING THE "BLUE."

LONDON, Dec. 17. The Ethiopian delegation in Stockholm has received a despatch from the Foreign Minister of the new Ethiopian republic saying that the British Government on its way to Reval, was met by representatives of the Ethiopian republic and that on its entrance to Reval it was enthusiastically welcomed by the population. Reval was decorated for the occasion with the men of the squadron were met wherever they went.

GENERAL SMUTS.

LONDON, Dec. 17. The Daily Chronicle's parliamentary correspondent says that Lieut. General Christian Smuts, who was released Monday as having resigned from the war cabinet on the ground that the war had terminated, and his

services were no longer required, probably will remain in office as long as the war cabinet continues. The newspaper says that in the ordinary course of events the war cabinet will be superseded by a nominal cabinet of which General Smuts will not be a member. The newspaper adds that since his arrival in England, General Smuts studiously held aloof from party controversies and that it is obvious he could not possibly serve in a domestic cabinet. General Smuts will have important duties to fulfill in connection with the Paris peace negotiations, the Daily Chronicle continues, and either he or General Botha, the South African Premier, will be a member of the peace conference.

MONARCHISTS MEET IN VIENNA.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 17. At a monarchist meeting in Vienna yesterday, which was attended by a number of Generals, Archduke Maximilian, brother of former Emperor Charles, was nominated as the successor to the crown. The Socialists, the Daily Chronicle continues, instead of a despatch from Vienna adding, instead of taking sharp measures against the monarchists.

MACKENSEN INTERVIEWED.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 17. Field Marshal Von Mackensen, commander of the German forces in Romania, has been interviewed by the Hungarian government, according to the Azezt of Budapest. The Hungarian government is reported to have informed the German leader that his interview was demanded by the Allies. Other despatches received from Vienna say that the Romanians have disarmed and interned the rearguard of Field Marshal Von Mackensen's forces.

PORTUGAL'S NEW PRESIDENT.

LISBON, Portugal, Dec. 17. Admiral Cantydo Casto has been elected President of Portugal in succession to Dr. Sidoncio Paes, who was assassinated last Saturday night.

SOLDIERS' AND WORKMEN'S CONGRESS OPENS.

BERLIN, Dec. 16. (By the A.P.)—The Central Congress of delegates from the Soldiers' and Workmen's Councils from many parts of Germany opened today in the building formerly used by the Prussian Diet. There were three women among the 450 delegates. The Spartacist group made a futile attempt to intimidate the congress. Early in the session a resolution was submitted that Dr. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, leaders of the Spartacist group, be invited to attend the congress as guests with advisory powers. Presentation of the resolution caused a great tumult throughout the hall. The followers of Liebknecht and spectators in the galleries joined in the uproar which lasted twenty minutes and threatened to result in various fist fights. The resolution was defeated five to one.

RIOTING IN ODESSA.

ODESSA, Dec. 13. (By the A.P.)—Serious rioting occurred.

curried here last night when elements opposed to the Hetman of the Ukraine burned the city prisons. Five persons were killed. Eight hundred prisoners, most of them adherents of the Hetman's regiment, were released.

HOLLAND CHANGING WITH THE TIDE.

PARIS, Dec. 17. (Havas.)—There is an important movement underway in Dutch commercial, political and financial circles, according to a despatch to the Hague from the Malin, indicating that the foreign policy of Holland will assume a new direction based on closer relations with the entente nations.

ST. LAWRENCE STILL OPEN.

QUEBEC, Dec. 17. Navigation on the River will close later this year than ever before in the history of the St. Lawrence. There are still some fifteen large ocean vessels to come down from Montreal, and the lakes and it is not expected the last will leave Quebec for the open sea before January.

FAVOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 17. A general meeting of the Independent Socialist Party has decided that the party shall vote in favor of a national assembly. The Berlin correspondent of the Berlin Gazette Tidende of Copenhagen, says this is a great defeat for the Spartacist group.

REVOLUTION IN BULGARIA.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 17. A revolution has broken out in Bulgaria, according to information received by the Lokal Anzeiger from Bulgaria, by way of Hungary.

C. P. R. FIRE.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 17. Thirteen people are missing following the destruction by fire of one tourist coach in a Canadian Pacific train which left Winnipeg at 9:10 p.m. yesterday for Toronto. The fire apparently started in a berth occupied by a family party and quickly spread to the rest of the coach. The rest of the train is uninjured, it would appear from the reports.

STEAMERS MEET IT ROUGH.

LONDON, Dec. 17. The British steamer Linmore, from Portland, Me., Dec. 1, for Falmouth, with a cargo of wheat, and the British steamer Aras, from Philadelphia, Nov. 27, for Lough Swilly, have arrived at Queenstown, and both reported they were damaged by heavy weather. According to advices from Bordeaux the American steamer Lake Bloomington is stranded at Pointe de LaCoubre, near there, and a semaphore message from the ship said that owing to the heavy sea she was in danger of breaking in two. The Lake Bloomington sailed from Sydney, N.S., October 9, for Nantes.

ONLY EXPECTED.

LONDON, Dec. 17. (Reuter's.)—Lord Hugh Cecil and Mr. Rowland E. Prothero, the Coalition candidates, were today detailed elected for the Oxford University seat in the House of Commons. The voting stood: Lord Hugh Cecil, Coalition, 2,771; Mr. Prothero, Coalition, 2,546; Professor Gilbert Murray, Liberal, 812; Mr. Furness, Labor, 352.

FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT.

LONDON, Dec. 17. John W. Davis, the new American Ambassador at London, made his first official call today, when he went to the Foreign Office to see A. J. Balfour, the Foreign Secretary. Mr. Davis was introduced by Irwin B. Laughlin, Secretary of the embassy. The new Ambassador will present his credentials to King George within a few days.

BOLSHEVICS DEFEATED.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 17. Defeat of Russian Bolshevik forces with a loss of 1,100 prisoners and 20 cannons by the Don Cossacks in the Voronezh region, was reported in a despatch today to the State Department.

AMERICANS IN COBLENZ.

COBLENZ, Dec. 15. Approximately forty thousand American troops have arrived at Coblenz since the advance guard reached here a week ago. A large number of these troops have passed through the city while considerable forces will remain

here temporarily. The people of Coblenz got their first glimpse of American airplanes today, several of the machines flying over the Rhine toward the bridgehead boundary and then returning.

FATAL FIRE AT SYRACUSE.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 16. Three men were burned to death in a lodging house fire early this morning, seven others were injured, most of them by jumping from windows of the burning building. Twenty-five men were asleep in the building when the fire broke out. There were many thrilling rescues and narrow escapes.

MECKLENBURG ELECTION.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 17. The elections to the National Assembly in the former Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg were announced to the Congress of Soldiers' and Workmen's Councils in Berlin as follows: Socialists 2, Liberals 16, Handicraftsmen 3, and Peasant Party 1.

VICTORY FOR MAJORITY SOCIALISTS IN ANHALT.

BERLIN, Dec. 16. (By the A. P.)—The elections to a National Assembly in the former Duchy of Anhalt, which is the first German Federal State to vote for a constituent body, resulted today in a marked victory for the Majority Socialists. The Anhalt National Assembly will be composed of twenty-two Majority Socialists, twelve German Democrats and two Conservatives.

BELGIAN REPRESENTATION.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17. The Belgian government announces that its delegation to the Peace Congress will be composed of Paul Hymans, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister in London, Emile Vandervelde, Minister of Justice and Socialist leader, and Baron Van de Nieuwe Belgien Minister at the Vatican and former Minister of Justice.

BIG RECEPTION FOR BOTHA.

LONDON, Dec. 17. General Botha, Premier of South Africa and his party arrived at Tilbury today from Capetown. They were welcomed on board their ship by Capt. Younger, representing the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the son of the Premier Captain Louis Botha. The party afterwards proceeding by special train to London upon arriving at St. Pancras station, General Botha was given a great ovation by a large crowd which had gathered to meet him.

RUSSIAN SITUATION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. Gloomy reports of the situation in Russia, particularly in Petrograd continued to reach the State department. A despatch today announced that the Soviet government has restricted the influx of hungry and destitute prisoners returning from Germany.

WILL ACT ACCORDINGLY.

MELBOURNE, Dec. 17. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Acting Premier Watt stated in the House of Representatives today that the Commonwealth of Australia would act in close co-operation with the Imperial government regarding the expulsion of Germans.

"FREEDOM OF THE SEAS."

LONDON, Dec. 17. In the course of an article analysing the American views on the freedom of the seas the legal correspondent of the Times after referring to modifications in these views which he says have resulted from the war continues "far from there being any necessary antagonism between the British and American views as to the so-called freedom of the seas there is revealed as the discussion proceeds the possibility of an Anglo-American agreement respecting the main lines of the declaration of maritime rights and duties to be worked out in details, not at the Peace Conference but at future conferences. The law of the past has been the same in both countries. The prize courts in England and in America have followed the same rules. That agreement may be continued if there is recognition of the facts as they are among which are the unique position of England and the scattered fragmentary character of her empire. Enumerating the points on which he assumed agreement can even be reached the correspondent goes on: Both countries would doubtless insist upon restrictions being imposed upon submarine warfare while the practice of throwing mines in the open sea is condemned both by Great Britain and the United States. They both sought in 1907 to prevent abuses of the practice, but were opposed by Germany. Many questions affecting neutrals may be reviewed with the hope of a reasonable settlement if Great Britain and America take the initiative. The Times in an editorial emphasizes the conclusion that there is no antagonism between the British and American views and it sees no reason why an agreement should not be concluded in one form or another. It argues the doctrine of continuous voyage as developed by England in this war, latterly with the full consent of the United States, is sure to become a part of recognized international law. A judgment in the British Prize Courts adds, the Times, lays down the principle that neutrals whose principles or policy lead them to refrain from punitive ac-

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tion of their own against the illegal action of others may well be called upon to bear a passive part in the suppression of courses which are fatal to the freedom of all who use the sea.

BOLSHEVICS LEAVE CAPITAL.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 17. The newspapers here say that travellers arriving from Petrograd announce that the Bolsheviks have begun the evacuation of the Russian capital preparatory to proceeding to Nizhni-Novgorod.

ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. The American fleet returning from Europe which is to be reviewed at New York by Secretary Daniels is expected to arrive off Ambrose Light Vessel at daylight on Tuesday, December 24. The navy department announced to-night that the ships will pass the statue of Liberty about nine a.m. and will then anchor in the north river from 55th to Fort Washington.

A JEWISH COMMONWEALTH.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17. The American Jewish Congress tonight declared for a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine under the trusteeship of Great Britain acting on behalf of such League of Nations as may be formed. The declaration in the form of a resolution was adopted amid wild enthusiasm. The 400 delegates representing more than 3,000,000 members of the race in the United States rose and sang the Hatikvah, the Jewish anthem, expressing the hope that Palestine shall soon be the homeland of the Jews. Another resolution was adopted that the Congress shall elect a delegation of not more than seven members who shall leave as soon as possible for Europe, where in co-operation with the representatives of the Jews of other lands it shall use its best endeavours to realize the objects for which the Congress was established in accordance with instructions formulated by this Congress. The delegation is instructed to render a report to the Congress after the latest date. The Congress is required to summon that body to receive a report of the delegation not later than one year after the treaty of peace shall

have been signed and to transact such other business as may come before it.

WITH MILITARY HONORS.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 17. The Cologne Gazette, a copy of which was received here, says Field Marshal Haig arrived in Cologne, Monday. The newspapers add that the British commander-in-chief was received with military honors familiar to us as former princely receptions.

Congratulatory Messages

FROM COLOGNE TO NEWFOUNDLAND.

To Governor, St. John's, Nfld. Royal Newfoundland Regiment greet you from outpost line of Cologne Bridgehead.

(Sgd.) Commander Royal Nfld. Regt.

To Officer Commanding Royal Newfoundland Regiment at Cologne: Greatly appreciate your message. Hearty congratulations to Regiment. (Sgd.) HARRIS.

Xmas Tree.

A children's entertainment including Xmas Tree, afternoon teas, etc., will be held in the schoolroom, Cathedral Square, to-morrow, Thursday, afternoon (Dec. 19th). The entertainment is in charge of the Ladies of the Presentation Convent Association, the proceeds are for the new building fund and, considering the object it should be well patronized.

Acknowledgment.

Mrs. Brehm gratefully acknowledges the following donations towards the Church of England Orphanage Christmas Tree Fund:—James Baird, Ltd., \$20.00; Mrs. Walter Moore, \$10.00; Sir J. Outerbridge, \$10.00; E. G. Rendell, \$5.00; Hon. R. Watson, \$5.00; W. R. Howley, \$5.00; Mrs. Goeling, \$5.00; Fred. Moore, \$5.00; In memory of Annie E. Winsor, \$5.00. December 17th, 1918

Personal.

Mr. J. D. Gilmour is in town on a visit from Grand Falls.

Mrs. Uphill left by the Sable I. yesterday, en route to Montreal.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Leach, of Harbor Grace, arrived in the city yesterday.

Messrs. C. F. Taylor and Lindsay are in town on a visit from Bell Island.

Capt. T. Dunn, wife and daughter arrived in the city yesterday from Hr. Grace.

Mr. H. C. Hansen arrived from Grand Falls yesterday, and is a guest at the Crosbie.

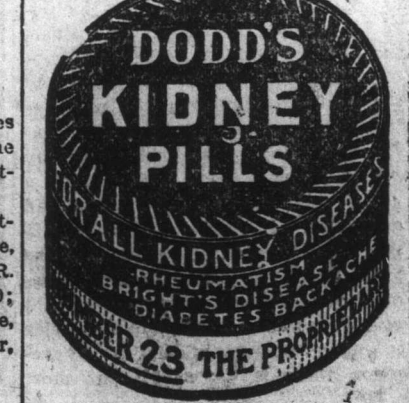
Hon. W. J. Higgins left by yesterday's express for Montreal, on legal business.

Messrs. A. and D. Munn left yesterday on a visit to their mother who is ill at present.

The man Hardy, of the Sheba, who is still in hospital suffering from Spanish "flu" is now in a rather critical condition.

Capt. Hartery has been appointed to the command of the schr. Bella Scott, which has just been built for the A.N. D. Co., at Botwood, and will arrive here shortly to receive the finishing touches. She will be used in the general trade.

Const. T. Murphy, who was injured in the performance of his duty about two months ago, has resumed street duty, though he has not yet recovered the full use of his arm which was broken at the time.



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