

News of the Week

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1.

The Germans struck another blow in the Cambrai region, but were unable to gain any real success.

General Allenby continues his successful operations in Palestine.

Bessarabia in the south-west of Russia has declared itself independent.

On Friday night Teuton airmen made a raid on Padua and some towns in northern Italy, and on Saturday night the raid was repeated. Considerable damage was done in the former, including treasures of art.

The result of the vote in the conscription referendum in Australia remains unchanged.

Former Premier Goremykin of Russia, his wife, and his brother-in-law were murdered by robbers.

It was rumored in Petrograd that the King of Roumania had abdicated in favor of the Crown Prince. The French launched a heavy and successful attack on the Italian front in the Monte Tomba sector. They stormed several positions with magnificent élan and took nearly 1,400 prisoners, sixty machine guns, and seven big guns. They held their gains in the face of counter-attacks. Violent artillery duels continue along the other sectors of this front. The opposing troops, under terrific bombardments are engaging in fierce grenade encounters.

The British Admiralty announces that the mine sweeping sloop Arbutus and the armed boarding steamer Grive have been sunk owing to bad weather, after having been torpedoed.

Ukrainian and Cossack forces in a great battle on the southwestern front are reported to have defeated Bolshevik troops, taking four hundred prisoners and capturing eight big guns and 328 machine guns.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2.

After bitter fighting, the Italian troops have cleared the Seenson bridgehead on the western bank of the Piave river, which was occupied by a considerable force of Austrians weeks ago. The whole of the bend is now in the hands of the Italians, and the foe is on the eastern bank of the river.

Snow is falling heavily along the Italian frontier heights, and Swiss soldiers are quoted as authority for

the assertion that Austro-German troops are held by snow on Tyrol frontier, that a number of régiments elsewhere have been without food supplies for some days, and that supply convoys and trains, with Red Cross units, are blockaded in the passes.

North of Jerusalem the British have made still farther progress, it is announced. From Thursday to Saturday some 750 prisoners were taken, including 39 officers.

From Petrograd come stories of hard fighting at points between Moscow and Rostov-on-don. The Bolsheviks, having control of the telegraphs, wins every battle, on paper at any rate, but for the present the truth seems to be that the Bolsheviks is incapable of restoring order in many great areas of Russia.

Japan is arranging for a loan to China. The debt of the United States is now \$5,615,000,000. The Roumanian Parliament was opened by the King.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3.

The Bolsheviks, according to the latest reports from Petrograd, state that peace negotiations have been broken off because of the refusal of Germany to withdraw troops from Riga, Libau, Poland, and other portions of what was once Russia, and to allow the inhabitants to vote unrestrainedly as to their future form of government.

The statement that France is calling out men up to fifty years of age, and that certain classes now at work on munitions are being placed at the disposal of the military authorities comes simultaneously with an announcement from Washington that the despatch of men to the front is to be greatly hastened.

General Maurice, director of military operations at the British War Office, in his weekly review warns the people that the enemy is being steadily reinforced on the western front by troops from the Russian front. He predicts determined offensive operations by the Germans, and thinks that at some points the Allies may lose ground, but points to the advantage they have by reason of the various ridges taken in successful operations during the past year, and believes that any loss of territory will not be so great as that won from the Germans in 1917.

As the wet season has begun in Palestine, operations there are likely to be retarded owing to the difficulty of carrying them on in the Judean Hills, even under favorable circumstances.

From Italy comes the report that another attempt of the foe to cross the Piave River by means of boats and rafts has been defeated.

On the Western front the day's report deals chiefly with raids, of which the enemy just now is conducting a number, obviously in preparation for his expected attack.

The Manitoba Legislature is to assemble on the 17th instant.

The Halifax Reconstruction Committee has adopted the terrace cottage type of dwellings for temporary homes for 1,500 families.

Quebec Province is disputing the legality and binding force upon it of the Federal Government's order-in-Council regarding loans.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4.

Teutonic delegates to the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk are reported returning to that place on the assumption that the negotiations will be renewed notwithstanding the opposition that has developed in Russia to the Germanic terms.

All arrangements have been completed for compulsory rationing which is to go into effect in Britain very soon, according to an announcement made by Lord Rhondda, the Food Controller.

Press correspondents are now permitted to publicly announce what has been an open secret for some time, namely, that the Canadian corps is back in the Lens area. General Haig reports the continuation of a number of raids by both sides, and considerable artillery activity, and similar reports come from Paris.

It is asserted that the seventh Austro-Hungarian war loan was a failure, the largest amounts subscribed being forced from the bankers.

The Royal Palace at La Tranja, in Spain, was burned.

Passengers on a train in Mexico were massacred by Indians.

V. Stefansson expects to reach Nome, Alaska, next Summer.

The coal situation is being gradually relieved in Ontario cities.

The operation of the draft under the Military Service Act began throughout the Dominion yesterday.

The commission on salmon fisheries in British Columbia recommends that no more cannery licenses be granted for five years.

The Canadian Railway Association for National Defence has arranged to reduce the passenger set-

vice, owing to need to conserve coal and labor for the most necessary purposes.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5.

General Allenby reports a further advance by a part of his line north of Jerusalem over a distance of a mile.

The latest advices received show that the first reports of the Guatemala earthquake were exaggerated. The fatalities as a result of the disturbance aggregated fifty, while only 100 persons were injured. Earth shocks continue, but they are weak. Relief committees are being formed all over the country, and a section of the Red Cross will depart shortly for Guatemala, taking medicines, blankets and other necessities.

On the battlefronts the comparative calm of the past few days continues, although the Germans in the Cambrai sector in local attacks have pushed back four British advanced posts for short distances. The artillery duels along the western front in France and Belgium and also in Italy are still going on, but the infantry is virtually idle, except for patrol engagements.

Floods in Siam, the worst since 1831, are devastating the country. Dispatches to-day from the American legation at Bangkok say the water has risen to the roofs of houses in which peasants are living. Great crop losses have been caused, and cattle are dying by drowning and starvation.

Seven returned soldiers were killed and sixteen injured in a troop train smash at Dorval.

MONDAY, JANUARY 7.

Freezing temperatures continue to hold the British front in an ice-grip. The Germans, however, are exceedingly active, carrying out raids on various parts of the line.

Germans captured a British advanced gap east of Bullecourt after heavy losses, but the British later in the day organized a counter-thrust, and recaptured the position.

Berlin reports officially that German troops penetrated the French lines near Juvincourt, on the Aisne front and northeast of Avocourt and west of Bezonvaux, on the Verdun front, and captured numerous prisoners and machine guns. In Ailly wood, in the St. Mihiel salient, the French made two attempts to penetrate the German trenches without success. In the Champagne French attacks were repulsed after hand-to-hand fighting. Fifteen Entente aeroplanes and four captive balloons were shot down on Friday and Saturday, the Germans claim, as the result of aerial fights and anti-aircraft fire.

In the Italian theatre the big guns of both sides hammering away at opposing positions in the hills and on the lower reaches of the Piave River. Several attempts by the Austro-Germans to make headway with small detachments between the Brenta and the Piave Rivers were repulsed.

Italian aviators surround Padua and drive off enemy machines as they advance, thus sparing the city another air raid.

When thanking the Roman aristocracy for their Christmas and New Year's greetings, the Pope expressed satisfaction that "the nobility had joined with the Holy See in condemning the recent air raids, which were against the rights of man."

Further earth shocks are reported in Guatemala.

A despatch received from the Russian Wireless Service says that 25,000 German soldiers in the region east of Kovno have revolted. German deserters state that in consequence of the Government drafting all soldiers below the age of 35 for despatch to the western front, the aforementioned number of men rebelled and marched out of the battle line.

To conserve finances for the war, Hon. F. B. Carvell will practically close down all federal public works. In addition to saving the money required for these works, the labor employed will be diverted to essential industries.

UNSOLD WOOL STOCKS.

Boston, January 4.

The annual canvass of the unsold stocks of wool throughout the country made by the Commercial Bulletin as of January 1, shows total stocks in dealers' hands of 89,510,827 pounds compared with 78,805,484 pounds on January 1, 1917. The Boston stocks in dealers' hands were 34,960,130 pounds, in addition to 1,294,596 pounds of tops and 2,544,101 pounds of noils this year, compared with total stocks last year of 44,099,484 pounds.

Judge (in Dallas News)—Where did the automobile hit you? 'Rastus—Well, jedge, if I'd been carrying a license numbah, it hab busted to a thousand pieces.

Bank of Nova Scotia

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank will be held in the Banking House, Hollis Street, Halifax, on Wednesday, the 23rd January next, at Eleven o'clock a.m., for the purpose of receiving a statement of the affairs of the Bank, for the election of Directors and for other business.

By order of the Board,

H. A. RICHARDSON,

General Manager.

Halifax, N.S., December 14th, 1917.

PROFESSIONAL.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN THE LANGUAGES.—Instruction in the Languages and Mathematics. No. 91 Mance Street, or telephone East 7302 and ask for Mr. E. Kay.

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