

MATERIAL DROP IN SHIP LOSSES FOR PAST WEEK

Eleven of Over 1,600 Tons
and One of Less
Capacity.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The losses to British shipping show a material decrease for the last week. According to the admiralty report tonight eleven British merchantmen of 1,600 tons or over were sunk during this period by mine or submarine, as well as one merchantman under that tonnage and one fishing vessel.

The summary:
"Arrivals, 2,215.
"Sailings, 2,446.
"British merchantmen sunk by mines or submarines, 1,600 tons or over, 11; under 1,500 tons, 1; fishing vessel, 1.
"British merchantmen unsuccessfully attacked, 14, including 2 previously."

For the week ended December 15, seventeen British merchantmen were sunk, fourteen of them of more than 1,500 tons. In the previous week the losses were 21, fourteen of them of more than 1,500 tons.

U. S. FRUSTRATES HIDEOUS HUN PLOT TO KILL WOUNDED

3,400 Bandages Found Infected With Deadly Poison
at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 26.—A plot to poison Red Cross bandages and spread wholesale death among the wounded of America and her allies has been exposed and frustrated here. The plot was revealed by the police department of justice agents who were hunting the perpetrators of the deed.

Three thousand four hundred surgical dressings, rolled by patriotic women in Toledo, were infected with a mysterious greenish poison while in transit between Toledo and Cleveland. Immediately every one of the 3,400 bandages were burned.

WORKING WITH BOMBS NOW.
SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 26.—A letter declaring nine bombs had been placed in the executive mansion, capitol building, police station and other places of "two head officers of the state" has been received by Governor Stephens and turned over to the police. It became known today. The letter demanded that \$50,000 be placed "in a rock pile" presumably near Oakland, Cal., December 31, at 3 o'clock.

BRITISH AIR SQUAD ALMOST GOT KAISER IN MANNHEIM RAID

Station From Which Emperor
Departed Hour Before Partially Destroyed.

Geneva, Dec. 26.—The German Emperor, returning with his staff from the Verdun front, had a narrow escape during the reprisal raid of a British air squadron on Mannheim on Christmas Eve, according to a dispatch from Basle. Only about an hour before the emperor's special train left the station, which was partly destroyed by several bombs. A section of the tracks was torn up, cutting off communication north.

In fact, the emperor's train was the last to leave Mannheim, and no trains arrived at Basle yesterday from that city. Two bombs fell on the palace gate and one on the suspension bridge across the Neckar River, both structures being badly damaged.

An ammunition factory in a northern suburb was blown up; few persons were killed there, however, as the employees were having a holiday. A considerable number of persons were killed and injured within the town, and several were blown into the Rhine.

FIRST REAL REPRISAL ATTEMPTED.
London, Dec. 26.—Monday's British air raid on the German city of Mannheim was the first instance of an exact reprisal policy for Hun raids over England, according to a statement today.

It was the first air raid carried out by the British fleet which did not aim at purely military objectives.

All London newspapers express satisfaction at the actual carrying out of the policy of "bomb for bomb, with compound interest," announced by Premier Lloyd George in October, and on December 14 reiterated by Lord Rothermere, British air minister.

DISTRICT CASUALTIES

DIED
SARNIA.
C. G. Vallis.

WOUNDED
ANNAN.
D. McArthur, R. R. No. 2.

GAS POISONING
ST. THOMAS.
Pte. Hubert Smith.
Pte. Arthur Fletcher.

WOUNDED AND PRISONER
HIGGATE.
Pte. Orval Smith.

Roosevelt's Second
Son Recommended For
Promotion in Rank

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Among 47 officers of the expeditionary force recommended for promotion by General Pershing in a list made public today by the War Department is Second Lieutenant Archibald D. Roosevelt, son of former President Theodore Roosevelt, who is recommended for a captain of infantry.

FORMER LAW PARTNER OF
PREMIER BORDEN IS DEAD
W. B. A. Ritchie, K. C., Victim of
Mastoid Abscess.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 26.—W. B. A. Ritchie, K. C., former law partner of Sir Robert Borden and one of the most widely known lawyers in Canada, died here last night after a two days' illness. Mr. Ritchie was taken to the General Hospital on Saturday night, suffering from a mastoid abscess. His death followed an operation.

Mr. Ritchie, who was 58 years old, was born in Annapolis, N. S., and practiced law for many years in that city and in Halifax. He came to the coast about five years ago and was connected for some time with the firm of Bowser, Reid & Wallbridge.

NO FIGHTING CANUCK WITHOUT HIS TURKEY ON LINES IN FRANCE

Christmas Banquets, Shows
and Atmosphere.

MAPLE LEAVES ON HAND

Real Old-Fashioned Time. Is
Enjoyed Despite War
Conditions.

CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, VIA LONDON, Dec. 26.—(By W. A. Willison, special correspondent of the Canadian Press.)—Christmas has come and gone. The front line was quiet. Christmas Day, which was wet and stormy, there was rain in the morning, turning to a snowstorm in the evening, and it was clear and cold at night. Behind the firing line the officers and men celebrated the day in wooden huts or huts or iron huts, or in the basements of shattered French houses or deep dugouts won back from the enemy.

They paused in the midst of action to drink old brandy to celebrate old customs and to remember old associations. The spirit of the day was the old Christmas spirit, with the message of all messages, which found expression in the Christmas number of the famous "Listening Post." To our own folks, whose dearest wish was that we should be with them at the festival board this Christmas time, just the old message, a merry Christmas and glad new year from the bottom of our hearts.

Banquet in Rest Station.
Stricken fighting men at the rest station in the Green Hills amidst the quiet surroundings of a quiet old chateau celebrated the season at a happy banquet in a great hut which was cool with evergreen, brightened with innumerable red, white and blue and green lanterns and decorated with red Cross lamps and Chinese lanterns, and warmed by two big stoves. Men of all services were there—veterans of many fights, new men who had only arrived in time to help in the glow that was "fascinated" and move on to the fighting ground of the present.

There were maple leaves to decorate the walls and many flags to add to the cheerfulness of the room and a real Christmas tree, growing under a load of presents from home. The men who were in the uniforms of their respective services or in hospital blue or pyjamas supplied by the Red Cross.

Their celebrations just as the wounded in the casualty stations or field ambulances had theirs. The C. A. M. C. strained itself to make the day a bright one for the wounded, and the Canadian Red Cross supplied them with special delicacies, games and toys. The V. M. C. A. and dispensary vied with one another in helping all to have a good time. Wherever the men were present in large numbers there were concert parties or moving picture shows. At more than one place the Canadians had special Christmas trees for the children in the neighborhood, and at all the large entertainments France was represented by mothers, fathers or youngsters. It was altogether as happy a day as the war conditions would permit. No man, as far as I can learn, went without his turkey or his Christmas pudding.

UNION GOVERNMENT HAS DISTRIBUTED TWO NICE PRESENTS

The Railways' Stocking Not
Overlooked.

(Special to The Advertiser.)
OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—Christmas and New Year's presents are being distributed by the new Union Government.

The railways' stocking was not overlooked. The second was to the railways. In the first instance an announcement was made that total prohibition was to be in force throughout the Dominion. The importation of intoxicating liquors was prohibited. It was hinted that the railways' stocking was not overlooked. The second was to the railways. In the first instance an announcement was made that total prohibition was to be in force throughout the Dominion. The importation of intoxicating liquors was prohibited. It was hinted that the railways' stocking was not overlooked.

The next Christmas (or rather New Year) present handed out by the Government is to the old friend, the railways. It is many months since these corporations made their application for an increase in freight rates. Naturally they placed that application as high as they thought it possible for them to secure it. They asked for a flat increase of 15 per cent. They didn't get it.

But they did; the Government waited until after the election to make its announcement. Today an order has gone forth jacking up freight rates by exactly the maximum asked for, namely, 15 per cent. Besides, passenger rates are advanced in the same ratio.

More New Year's presents may be expected at an early date. But the common people and the consumers may just as well give up hope of being in the deal.

TORONTO DOCTOR FACES MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE

TORONTO, Dec. 26.—Dr. R. McP. Turner is under arrest on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of Marion Stone, who died today at the General Hospital following an alleged operation. The doctor is confined to St. Michael's Hospital, suffering from blood poisoning, and his condition is said to be serious.

Dr. Turner is under police surveillance, and will be removed to the jail as soon as his condition permits. The doctor's arrest has caused a sensation in medical circles. Norman Joffe, chauffeur, is also under arrest.

REVERES DECISION

TORONTO, Dec. 26.—That the Ontario extra provincial corporation act held by Mr. Justice Maestri to be invalid, is the decision of the appellate division in a judgment given today in the action brought by the attorney-general of Ontario against the Harris Lithographing Company.

The effect of the decision is that companies chartered by the Dominion must take out a provincial license and pay the provincial fees before operating in this province. Unless they do so they are subject to the penalties provided by the province.

J. S. BARNARD

FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, 1918

LIQUOR REGULATION IS ADJUSTED TO FIT PROVINCIAL ORDERS

Term "Alcohol" Changed to
"Proof Spirits."

HARMONIZE VARIOUS LAWS

Congratulatory Words From
Premiers of Saskatchewan
and Alberta.

OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—In the regulations touching the importation and sale of liquor adopted by the Government on December 22, the general phrase, "alcohol," was used in dealing with the alcoholic contents of liquors which should be deemed to be intoxicating. As the several provincial prohibition statutes make use of the technical phrase, "proof spirits," a slightly lower alcoholic content, it has been considered advisable to amend section 2 of Saturday's regulations by substituting the words "proof spirits" for the word "alcohol" therein, thus obviating any possibility of confusion which would arise from two different standards. This amending order, it is understood, was passed at today's council meeting, and brings the provincial laws and the Dominion regulations into complete harmony in this regard, and removes all possibility of misunderstandings.

ALBERTA PREMIER PLEASED.
EDMONTON, Dec. 26.—Premier Charles Stewart this afternoon wired to Sir Robert Borden commending the Government for the recent order-in-council restricting the liquor traffic.

NORRIS ADDS HIS PRAISE.
WINNIPEG, Dec. 26.—Premier Norris (Manitoba) today gave the following statement to the Canadian Press, Limited:

"In reference to the recent order passed by the Dominion Government concerning the control of the liquor traffic, it is regarded as very satisfactory to the Provincial Government, rendering more effective the Manitoba temperance act. It supplies the missing link, and will, I believe, be acceptable to the great majority of the people of the province."

THE VOICE OF P. E. I.
CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Dec. 26.—Premier Chas. Stewart says: "The Government's action in prohibiting the importation of liquor into Canada will be generally approved by the people of Prince Edward Island. Dominion-wide prohibition is a war-time necessity and should have the support of every loyal citizen."

CABINET GETS BUSY SCATTERING ITSELF ALL OVER THE EARTH

None Seem Disposed to Stick
On the Job.

(Special to The Advertiser.)
OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—Sir Robert Borden has gone to the Hot Springs, Virginia, where he will play golf for the next three weeks.

Hon. Frank Owen, who has been seriously ill for the past few days, left today for New York to undergo treatment. Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice, is on his way south for a vacation.

Sir George Foster, minister of trade and commerce, is seriously indisposed in Toronto, and may be compelled to take a long vacation in the south. Hon. W. Howard and Gen. Newburn contemplate a sea voyage to England in the near future.

Sevigny Takes It Hard.
Hon. Albert Sevigny has been indisposed since the beginning of the campaign and is still confined to his bed.

Hon. P. E. Blondin was recently congratulated by Edmund Bristol of Toronto on having been elected, and has not yet been notified at the Savoy Hotel, London, that he has lost his deposit.

Sir Thomas White has "gone away for a well-earned rest." Nobody knows where he has gone. Western members have not yet realized whether they have a low tariff or a protectionist government, and are remaining out west to find out.

Hon. C. C. Ballantyne and a few others have gone down to Halifax to see whether there is anything in the State of Massachusetts has left undone, to which they can give "their earnest consideration."

Otherwise the Union Government is right on the job.

YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE FOR JAMES GRAY

(of Gray's, Limited.)
for
BOARD OF
EDUCATION
1918

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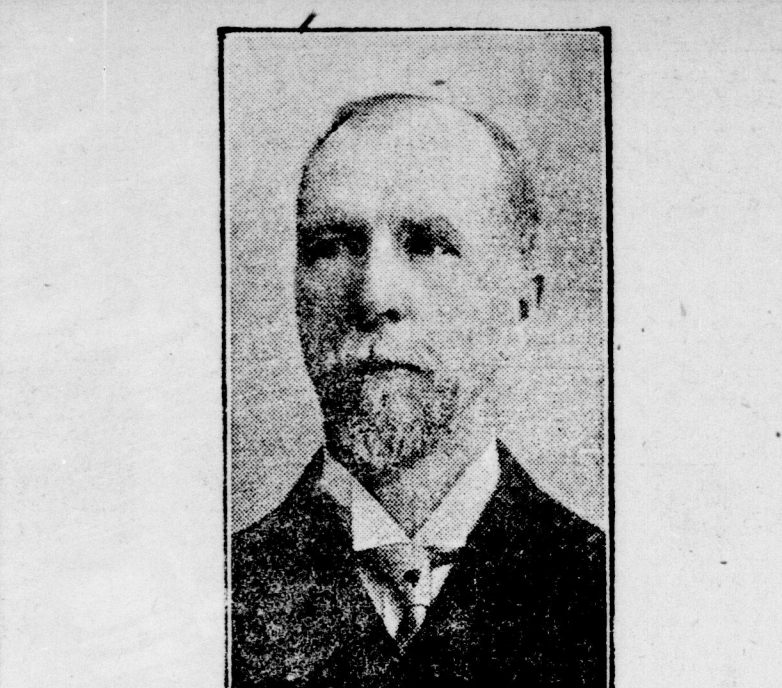
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J. S. BARNARD

FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, 1918



C. R. SOMERVILLE

FOR MAYOR, 1918

LONDON'S CIVIC BUSINESS NEEDS FOR 1918

A man fully equal to the intricacies of finance.

Who has proven himself capable of organizing for economy and efficiency, and one who will make economy and efficiency his very first consideration in everything.

Who is known to be sympathetic towards all problems relating to labor and fair wages.

Who will be fearless in carrying out any policy for the benefit of the city.

Who is free from personal considerations in managing city business.

Who has both the time and energy to deal with such intricate problems.

SUCH A MAN IS C. R. SOMERVILLE

The seriousness of these needs has brought together, irrespective of politics or any other consideration, citizens of all classes, who have urged Mr. Somerville to accept the nomination for mayor, and all citizens interested in good civic government should get behind Mr. Somerville and work for his election. Mr. Somerville is a man who will command respect from all members of the council, all civic boards and civic employees.

VOTE FOR

Joshua Garratt

For BOARD OF CONTROL

FOR 1918

CONTROLLER E. S. LITTLE

Holds the Confidence of
London Because He Stands
On the Platform of

Business Methods

No Graft

No Influences

The business of the people of London demands safe and competent direction in these times of war. For that reason London will re-elect Controller Little to the

Board of Control

65C-WTS

MASS MEETING

FRIDAY EVENING, 8 O'CLOCK
MASONIC HALL, QUEEN'S AVE.

Controller SHAW

MAYORALTY CANDIDATE

has secured Masonic Hall for a popular meeting in the interests of the citizens. All candidates will be accorded the privilege of a hearing. Ladies specially invited. This is not a hand-picked meeting. Everybody welcome. The people should hear the truth.

6412

RE-ELECT PHILIP POCOCK

FOR
Utilities Commission

London will do credit to itself by electing a successful businessman to manage its utilities. His record cannot be assailed.

INDORSED BY THE TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

At the Solicitation of the Workers of
the City

RE-ELECT MAYOR STEVENSON

Three Continued Years of Surpluses.
The Reduction in the High Cost of
Living.

Efficient Management.

Water Question Solved (2,000,000 gallons daily added).

All Public Utilities Paying.

The Paving Plant Has Paid Itself This Year.

Public Market Improved.

WHY CHANGE?

VOTE FOR

JARED VINING

FOR THE
Public Utilities Commission

YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE FOR

P. J. Watt

FOR
Alderman

WARD NO. 1.
THANKS!
Dec. 27, 29, 31

RE-ELECT ALDERMAN KEENE

WARD 2

YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE RE-SPECFULLY SOLICITED FOR EX-ALD.

C. H. Merryfield

FOR THE BOARD OF CONTROL, 1918.
631 YWVZ

64-12