

# BRANDON AND DISTRICT NEWS

Owing to the continued illness of Malcolm Leach, of Oak Lake, the case of James McKilligan, charged with misappropriating funds belonging to his employer, was further adjourned by Judge Cumberland to Tuesday afternoon, December 27th.

A car belonging to Mr. Austin Belyea, 922 Eighth street, took fire this afternoon. Fearing to see the car destroyed Mr. Belyea phoned the Fire Department but when it arrived he had already managed to extinguish the flames. In the process however, Mr. Belyea inhaled some of the fumes and was overcome. He had to be put to bed where he is still suffering from the effects.

Word has been received that Mr. R. E. Speakman, late City Engineer for Brandon, has settled down comfortably in Rochester, Minn. But his special treatment has not yet been prescribed, as the medical men have not yet ascertained the cause of the trouble.

An official intimation has been received here that No. 425142, Private R. E. Pearce, who was recently reported missing, is now believed to be a prisoner of war in Germany. Private Pearce is a Brandon boy and resided at 280 Twenty-third street.

## RATS ARE BUSY SO IS THE RAT CATCHER

Some of the streets of the city, according to Brandon's official rat-catcher, Mr. Albert Grant, are literally infested with rats. He just caught forty rats in a barn located on Twentieth street.

There are houses on Third street among which there are twenty to thirty rats distributed. In one case, a rat caught in a break-back trap, was eaten up by the surviving rodents. "Rats are becoming an awful nuisance in the city," commented Mr. Grant.

One boot store on Rosser avenue had a whole pile of moccasins destroyed by the vermin.

## HENS BURNED TO DEATH

Twelve hens were burned to death Wednesday afternoon when the hen house at the rear of the premises of Robert Holton, 1005 Tenth street, was set ablaze through something going wrong with the coal oil stove. The fire department was summoned, but though the poultry house was destroyed, the fire was prevented from spreading. Apart from the loss of the hens, the damage done was inconsiderable.

## TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN

To encourage the children in the collection of waste accumulation for the benefit of the Red Cross, Mr. R. J. Campbell has promised to donate a framed picture of the King to the school room the children from which secure the most material. To the Boy Scout troop which devotes the greatest number of hours to supervision of the collection of waste Mr. Campbell is promising a framed Boy Scout picture.

## WHEAT CHARGES DOWN ON RECEIPT OF PEACE REPORTS

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Wheat crashed degrees awarded by the university of peace reports. The first sales showed a fall in some cases of 8½ cents a bushel. May wheat touching 158½ as against 164½ to 165½ as yesterday's finish.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—The Winnipeg market closed with December 15½c lower; May 13½c lower, the quotations for the two months for the day being 12½c and 11c respectively. Oats were down 3½c for December and 3½c for May. Barley closed 5c lower for December and 1c for May. Flax closed 7½c lower for December and 7½c lower for May.

Minneapolis wheat closed 12c lower for December; 12½c lower for May and 12½c down for July.

Chicago closed with December down 11c; May 11½c and July 11½c lower. When the closing figures were finally recorded it was found that at the low point of the day Winnipeg December sold 39½c under the high point of the season, which was 1.97, and May 34½c under the high point, which was 1.97½.

## BRITISH RECEIVE

London, Dec. 18.—The peace note of the Central Powers was handed to the British Government today by the American Ambassador.

Miss Hilda Trotter has returned from Winnipeg where she spent the past two weeks.

When! Forty below zero. Lowest temperature according to mercury at the Experimental farm this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Persner, 641 Franklin street, left Monday morning on an extended visit to their old home in London, England.

At the last regular meeting of the I.O.O.F. M.U., the following brethren were elected to the various offices for the ensuing term:

G. M.—Bro. A. S. Walker.  
N. G.—Bro. H. White.  
V. G.—Bro. H. Hallett.  
Fin. Sec.—Bro. J. W. Wilson.  
Treas.—Bro. G. Goodwin.  
Rec. Sec.—Bro. W. W. Bulmer.  
Chaplain.—Bro. F. Ely.  
Warden.—Bro. A. Bingham.  
Conductor.—Bro. S. H. Burton.  
I. G.—Bro. W. Binnie.  
O. G.—Bro. C. W. Hampton.  
First S. S.—Bro. H. Winter.  
Second S. S.—Bro. F. Bolton.  
Trustees—E. Bolton, P. G. H. H. Swallow, P. G. W. V. Olesby, P. G. Drugist—W. Hutchings.  
Surgeons—J. Edmiston, A. T. Conde.

## OBITUARY

Gordon Knowlton.

Word has been received of the death at Denver, Colorado, of Mr. Gordon Knowlton, son of the late Mr. G. G. and Mrs. Knowlton of this city. Mr. Knowlton was an old Brandon boy, having passed through the college here, and for two years prior to going into business at Vancouver he taught school in the Hayfield district. The remains are being brought to Brandon for interment and it is expected that the funeral will take place Sunday afternoon. More definite funeral notice will be made later. The family kindly request not to send flowers.

Having failed to get the boys out of the trenches by Christmas, Henry Ford might try putting asbestos whiskers on Santa Claus. It is a noble idea.

## OBITUARY

Mrs. M. Donald.

Mrs. Margaret Donald, who for the past two years has resided in the city, died at the residence of her grandson, Thomas Wait, 542 Seventh street, on Wednesday afternoon, at the age of eighty-six years and nine months.

Mrs. Mary Louise Speers  
One of the old-time residents of Alexander in the person of Mrs. Mary Louise Speers, passed away during the week-end at the ripe age of seventy-five years. The deceased lady was the widow of the late Joseph Speers who predeceased his wife about a year ago. The funeral was held from the Presbyterian church at Alexander on Tuesday. The deceased had resided at Alexander for the last thirty-five years and with her husband was among the pioneers of the district.

Funeral of Thomas Harkness  
The funeral of the late Thomas Harkness was held from his late residence, corner of Eighth street and Louise avenue, Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The deceased was one of the old-timers of this district and had taken a prominent part in politics. He was sixty-one years of age and is survived by two daughters.

Funeral of J. Gordon Knowlton  
The funeral of the late J. Gordon Knowlton took place from the residence of his mother, 622 Thirteenth street, at two o'clock Tuesday afternoon. The body was brought home from Denver, Col., accompanied by the sister of the deceased. The following were the pallbearers: D. McKinnon, E. Laidlaw, Rupert Magee, R. W. Dennison, H. Foster and H. B. Bedford. Rev. A. E. Smith officiated.

## VANCOUVER HONORS

Sir Robert Borden  
Vancouver, Dec. 16.—A civic luncheon, a military review, a flying trip by auto round the city, and a couple of public addresses formed the program of Sir Robert Borden, who reached Vancouver today at noon. Vancouver set itself to honor the Premier on his first trip here in nine years.

## SIR THOMAS WHITE

STANCH SUPPORTER  
Premier Borden  
Toronto, Dec. 18.—Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance, characterized the allusion to him in the morning papers, that he was in conspiracy against the Borden Government, as contemptible and beneath him to answer. He declares he is a staunch supporter of Premier Borden, and that he considers a coalition government unnecessary and impracticable.

## CONGREGATIONALISTS ENTERTAIN LIEUT. SCOTT: RECEPTION IN CHURCH

So Confident was Lieutenant that He Would Return That He Did Not Make a Will

At a social given at the Congregational church on Thursday evening, Lieut. Gideon Scott, who recently returned wounded from the front, was given a magnificent reception as the guest of honor for the occasion. Every item on an excellent program of music was patriotic, and the whole atmosphere on the occasion was redolent with the spirit of patriotism.

In a few well-chosen words, Mr. Blyth gave an address of welcome to Lieut. Scott. He said he voiced the sentiments of the church and thanked God for bringing Lieut. Scott back safely. He wished for Mr. and Mrs. Scott the best that life can give.

The gallant lieutenant was given a splendid reception on rising to respond. He declared that he felt unmistakably the guiding hand of Providence in his experiences at the front. He had felt so sure from the start that he would come back safely that he did not even make a will.

Lieut. Scott narrated instances in which the hand of Providence appeared to keep him safe while others went to their deaths. He was with the battalion all the summer, but was buried following a shell explosion, besides being wounded in shoulder and leg. Two weeks afterwards all the officers, including Lieut. Hoste, of Brandon, were killed. The wounds he had received two weeks previously doubtless saved his life.

The speaker described some of the more humorous experiences at the front. He stated that it was customary when in a deep portion of the trenches, for ladders to be placed to enable sentries to keep watch for possible movements of the enemy. One of the sentries would go to the top of the ladder, while another would be stationed half-way up. Sometimes the sentries would be in danger of dozing off, and the officers going to the ladder would have to be careful not to startle the men too abruptly, as the excitement of the moment, the rifle might be fired. On such occasions Lieut. Scott's favorite password was: "How would you like Portage avenue now?"

Lieut. Scott may be able to remain here over Sunday, and in this event will speak at the evening service in the Congregational church.

## Bowling

Forrest Takes Revenge  
Two games were played at the Woodbine Saturday last when the Forrest team, out ample revenge for their trouncing at the hands of the Roseland five two weeks ago, when they not only took the odd game away from Jack Bell's hopefuls but also won on total pins, which was the way the games were to be decided. There was method in their madness for this, as Jack Bell had counted on coming through with a big "200" game in the final, but his ball was as shy as a young colt and wouldn't go anywhere near where the pins were.

The other game was between the salesmen and the office staff of the Brandon Grocery, and it is rumored that the salesmen have again taken to the road as they dropped all three to the office. The last heard of Baker was that he was seen at Souris practicing on the alleys there, while Dr. Rankin was headed for Bunclody. Since the games Michie has given up all thoughts of going to the International Bowling Congress at St. Paul next month. Following are the scores:

| Roseland            |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| J. Bell             | 94 145 97    |
| B. Hinch            | 130 139 143  |
| J. Grey             | 113 117 134  |
| J. Scott            | 131 169 153  |
| H. Robinson         | 179 127 149  |
| Total 2020          | 647 697 676  |
| Forrest             |              |
| J. McPhail          | 159 128 145  |
| P. Forsyth          | 132 134 147  |
| G. Marshall         | 118 138 126  |
| J. McCallum         | 133 132 134  |
| C. Watkins          | 161 137 136  |
| Total 2078          | 722 663 688  |
| Total pins to count | 1024 150 139 |
| Donnell             | 132 137 128  |
| Kennie              | 187 168 142  |
| Jones               | 173 165 137  |
| Henry               | 122 137 161  |
| Windle              | 816 729 700  |
| Salesmen            | 132 150 140  |
| Baker               | 90 102 123   |
| E. A. Rankin        | 187 168 142  |
| Lawrence            | 86 117 87    |
| Michie              | 115 128 114  |
| J. H. Rankin        | 610 663 568  |

## The Night before Xmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, I waited alone,  
With a heart a bit heavy, unhappy,  
I own:  
My babies had left me, had gone to their bed  
When each little Santa Claus prayer  
Had been said,  
Three tiny limp stockings hung there tauntingly  
Seemed almost to know of the grim tragedy.  
With silence unbroken the moments crept on  
Each adding its dread to the thoughts of the dawn.  
For I wondered what story I'd tell in the morn.  
When there wasn't a dollie, a sled or a horn,  
When my babes through their tears would ask just why it was  
That they'd been forgotten by their Santa Claus.  
For him they had seen in the big crowded store  
They told of his "yes" and his "no,"  
And too, they confided, he'd held them and smiled—  
Too short-lived to crush was this faith of a child.  
They listened in wonder as he told them how  
He'd come down the chimney—they dreamed of him now.  
But soon I must tell him, my big blue-eyed boy  
Just how that it happened there wasn't a toy,  
Why there wasn't a drum for my own little lad  
Or a pony on wheels like the other boys had.  
And for a wee tot who would mother a doll  
I'd nourish a faith far too tender to fall.  
While thoughts of these things brought a mist to my eyes  
The words of a carol rose soft to the skies,  
O'er the crisp mid-night air came it strangely to me  
Of Bethlehem's Babe and of far Calvary.  
For a moment I slipped me, my plight I forgot  
And my thoughts drifted back to the first Christmas morn.  
At my window I listened—the stars shone bright—  
'Til faintly the echoes were lost in the night.  
And then in the stillness I knelt at my chair  
And brother from my heart just a "Merry Xmas"  
I asked that He'd help me in His gentle way.  
To tell to my babes just why Christmas Day,  
There were none of the wonderful things they had seen  
And why some few stockings were woefully lean.  
In the midst of my pines as I knelt to the floor  
Came a half hurried step and a tap at my door.  
I opened with heart quickened gravely in doubt  
"A Good Fellow just helping Santa Claus out."  
To the holly-decked bundle this mis-sive was caught,  
A red-painted sled and a sword and a cap;  
The realized dreams of my curly-haired chap!  
And with arms quite outstretched for a girlie's caress  
Was a dimpled cheeked dollie in bonnet and dress—  
Through the darkness that hovered, 'till now came a gleam  
Of the spirit of Christmas—it 'twas n't a dream  
Ah! it wasn't a dream, but His deed brought about  
"By a soul who was just helping Santa Claus out."  
A soft place to fall.  
"Fifty dollars!"  
When Mr. Teewood regained consciousness, his wife was remorsefully bathing his head with cold cloths.  
"John," she whispered, as he opened his eyes, "could you have stood twenty-five?"  
"I suppose so," he faintly acknowledged.  
"Well," she cooed, kissing his clammy cheek, "that is what I intend to pay when I do buy, and I wanted to break it to you gently."—Terrel, Love Holiday, in Judge.

10:30 P.M. LIST  
Ottawa, Dec. 18.—At 10:30 p.m., the following twenty-three casualties appeared:  
**INFANTRY**  
Killed in Action  
Lance Corp. J. V. Young, Winnipeg; Pte. D. P. Dack, Winnipeg; Pte. Hans Hegman, Elmwood, Winnipeg; Pte. Daniel Hull, Winnipeg; Sgt. C. P. Kennedy, Winnipeg; Pte. C. J. Miller, Winnipeg; Co. Sergt. Major D. W. Aiken (on duty), Winnipeg; Pte. A. P. Houston, Carman; Pte. W. A. McPherson, Foxwarren; Pte. E. D. Neelands, Portage la Prairie.  
**Dangerously Ill**  
Sergt. L. L. Paterson, Suite 8, 185 Furby street.  
**Wounded**  
Killed in Action  
Lance Corp. J. V. Young, Winnipeg; Pte. D. P. Dack, Winnipeg; Pte. Hans Hegman, Elmwood, Winnipeg; Pte. Daniel Hull, Winnipeg; Sgt. C. P. Kennedy, Winnipeg; Pte. C. J. Miller, Winnipeg; Co. Sergt. Major D. W. Aiken (on duty), Winnipeg; Pte. A. P. Houston, Carman; Pte. W. A. McPherson, Foxwarren; Pte. E. D. Neelands, Portage la Prairie.  
**Accidentally Killed**  
101004 J. Defoe, Brougham, Ont.  
**Died**  
73782 Harry Wilkins, Lawrencetown, N.S.  
**Previously Reported Missing, Believed Died of Wounds; Now Missing, Believed Killed in Action**  
44376 Matt Green, Rutherglen, Ont.  
**Missing**  
79196 A. J. Mann, Aylmer West, Ont.  
**Previously Reported Wounded; Now Wounded and Missing**  
189189 F. R. Ball, Port Arthur, Ont.  
**Previously Reported Prisoner of War at Switzerland; Now Seriously Ill**  
8831 Lance Cpl. Thomas Graham, Scot.  
**Dangerously Ill**  
74747 C. C. Wannop, Broughton, Ont.  
910208 Sergt. L. L. Paterson, Winnipeg  
**Wounded**  
463236 J. B. W. Bowell, Vancouver.  
147828 D. P. Dack, Winnipeg.  
841432 Walter Dapp, Montreal.  
Charles Erickson, Duluth, Minn.  
140460 Wm. Thorndale, England.  
147181 Hans Hagman, Winnipeg.  
148482 A. P. Houston, Carman, Man.  
380663 J. E. Raymond, Buffalo, N.Y.  
582418 Jos. Lawrence, Scotland.  
187888 C. W. Lowther, Oxford, N.S.  
146726 W. A. McPherson, Foxwarren, Man.

## Further Appointments Made by Government

London, Dec. 14.—The following appointments are announced: Colonel Kemmis Berly, to be acting director of personal services; Colonel J. W. Bridger, to be acting assistant director of medicals at Brighton; Lieut. General Watt, transferred to a similar position in London.

## Scissored and Penned

The Lloyd George Cabinet

Christian Science Monitor: The ministry formed by Mr. Lloyd George is in many respects one of the most remarkable the United Kingdom has ever seen. To begin with, it marks a complete rupture with tradition; and to end with, it is instinct with new men, brought, as it were, from the highways and byways, to the exclusion of the usual political leaders. It must be admitted, of course, that the ministry is essentially a war ministry. But this does not alter the fact that, for the first time, a minister of Labor will appear in the new government, or that the cabinet itself has shrunk to something nearer the proportions it assumed in the seventeenth than those of the twentieth century. It must be admitted also that in a way this is a more honest position. The growth of cabinets has ended, as it was almost bound to end, in the formation of interior cabinets. Business, which could not be sufficiently transacted by twenty people or more passed into the hands of four or five members, who really had no commission to act in any way apart from their colleagues, and who owed their selection entirely to the favor of the prime minister of the day.

The new cabinet of five members which Mr. Lloyd George has selected, two of whom are without portfolios, will be employed essentially in guiding the country through the crisis of the war. If a historical parallel were to be sought for a cabinet of such a size, it would be necessary to go back to the reign of Charles II, to the day of the famous "Cabal," the cabinet of five members which ruled the country on the most monarchical and reactionary basis, in the days following the Restoration. Between King Charles "Cabal" and King George's war ministry there is, however, a great gulf fixed, for the war ministry is essentially the outcome of the decision of the people as the "Cabal" was the outcome of the whim of the monarch. Mr. Lloyd George in his controversy with Mr. Asquith, insisted that the prime minister responsible for the government of the whole country could not possibly find time to be a member of the war council, which was intended essentially to promote the country's efficiency in the war. Mr. Asquith, on the other hand, contended that it was quite impossible for the prime minister of the country to have no hand in the control of the war. Mr. Lloyd George, as prime minister, seems to have surrendered to the force of an argument he denied as secretary of state.

Scientific American: Another novelty of darkened London is a police-man's helmet, provided with a small electric bulb on the very top, serving as a sort of beacon to pedestrians and street traffic. The electric bulb is connected to a battery fastened on the belt of the "bobby" by means of a flexible conductor.

Because you are an excellent carpenter, declared Socrates in his famous Apologia at Athens, it does not therefore follow that you are the wisest of men. Yet the tendency persisted and persists, and Alexander Cruden, a great maker of concordances, was found offering his services to the British government over 150 years ago, as "Corrector of Morals," just as many rich business men in England today are offering their services to the government "under the conviction that they can do in one day what an expert can barely manage in three."

One reason why Switzerland is not walked over is the fact that it has finished but walking in spots, as for instance up and down the Matterhorn.

## CANADIAN CASUALTIES

| MANITOBA   |  |
|--|--|
| 57378 Lance Cpl. James Young, Montreal.                            |  |
| 226705 Ivon Vidok, Serbia.   |  |
| INFANTRY   |  |
| 410255 David Craig, Ottawa.  |  |
| Previously Reported Wounded; Now Killed in Action                  |  |
| 414792 R. G. Lecher, Spring Hill, N.S.                             |  |
| Previously Reported Missing; Now Officially Prisoner of War        |  |
| 455139 E. P. McQuade, Port Hope, Ont.                              |  |
| Previously Reported Missing; Now Wounded; Rejoined Regiment        |  |
| 469122 W. F. Tolin, Regina, N.S.                                   |  |
| Previously Reported Prisoner of War; Now Arrived in England        |  |
| 25040 M. E. Ketterline, Rochelle, Que.                             |  |
| Seriously Ill  |  |
| Lieut. E. A. Edwards, Kamloops, B.C.                               |  |
| 104965 J. H. Elliott, Vancouver.                                   |  |
| Wounded  |  |
| 911289 E. M. Bash, Charesholm, A.R.                                |  |
| 147156 Daniel Hull, Winnipeg.                                      |  |
| 187088 Sgt. C. P. Kennedy, Winnipeg.                               |  |
| 147219 C. J. Miller, Winnipeg.                                     |  |
| 4847 E. D. Neelands, Portage la Prairie                            |  |
| 448191 L. Parent, Dorchester, Que.                                 |  |
| 142929 Co. Sergt. Major D. W. Aiken (remaining on duty), Winnipeg. |  |
| 715727 H. J. Archer, Sydney Mines, N.S.                            |  |
| 466277 Lt. Cpl. Charles Duffin, Red-cliffe, Alta.                  |  |
| Capt. Charles W. Dunn, Que.  |  |
| 147499 C. W. Field, Maxwell, Ont.                                  |  |
| Lieut. Fred R. Henry, Edmonton.                                    |  |
| 57878 C. Lundberg, Sutton Bay, New Ontario.                        |  |
| 68424 Mack Reid, Halifax, N.S.                                     |  |
| 126319 O. F. Schultz, Stratford, Ont.                              |  |
| 715956 M. G. Slagterwhite, Mahone Bay, N.S.                        |  |
| 226724 A. M. Gardiner, Ottawa.                                     |  |
| 144391 Lance Cpl. C. W. James, City View, Ont.                     |  |
| SERVICES   |  |
| Seriously Ill  |  |
| 1664 Sergt. W. E. Ineson, Toronto.                                 |  |
| 48583 Trooper P. Papineau, Montreal.                               |  |
| Wounded  |  |
| 512142 Lance Cpl. J. V. Young, Winnipeg.                           |  |

## Osteopath Dr. C. W. McCurdy

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Open a Savings Bank Account and cultivate habits of thrift and economy.

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S. A. DUKE, Manager.