

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 260 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 traps 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 Rossar 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 or 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 CHANGES DOWN ON RECEIPT OF PEACE REPORTS

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Wheat crashed degress awarded by the university of peace reports. The first sales showed a fall in some cases of 8% cents a bushel, May wheat touching 158¢ as against 166¢ to 168¢ as yesterday's finish.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—The Winnipeg market closed with December 15 1/2c lower, May 13 1/2c lower, the quotations for the two months for the day being 12 1/2c and 11c respectively. Oats were down 3/4c for December and 3/4c for May. Barley closed 5c lower for December and 1c for May. Flax closed 7 1/2c lower for December and 7 1/2c lower for May.

Minneapolis wheat closed 12c lower for December; 12 1/2c lower for May and 12 1/2c down for July.

Chicago closed with December down 11c; May 11 1/2c and July 11 1/2c lower. When the closing figures were finally recorded it was found that at the low point of the day Winnipeg December sold 37 1/2c under the high point of the season, which was 1.97, and May 34 1/2c under the high point, which was 1.97 1/2c.

BRITISH RECEIVE MUN PEACE NOTE

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.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Persuer, 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. Bincham.
- Conductor—Bro. S. H. Britton.
- 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. Y. Osleby, P. G. Druggist—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 collegiate 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.

Funeral of Thomas Harkness

The funeral of the late Thomas Harkness was held at 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 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.

Miss May Hanbury, of Vancouver, who has been attending school at Menomonee, Wis., is the guest of her sister, Mrs. A. B. Flehag, for the holiday season.

An envelope addressed "The Boys of the Sun Office," bearing a beautiful Christmas card conveying seasonal greetings has been received from Mr. W. G. Hargreaves, "Rochester," Aldersworth Grove, Lewisham, S.E. London, England. "The Boys" reciprocate.

LIUET. SHORT MISSING

Brockville, Ont., Dec. 19.—A private cablegram from London announces that Lieut. Allan Short, who left Canada with the machine gun section of an Ontario battalion, is officially reported missing, following an engagement on the French front. He is thought to be a prisoner of war. Lieut. Short, who is a nephew of the late Seth Low, one time mayor of New York city, was a Harvard student when he came to Brockville to enlist. Before sailing he married Miss Clarke, of Columbus, Ohio.

WOMAN AND MAN BURNED IN SHACK

Montreal, Dec. 15.—Marie Toyenzenk, wife of Olicso Toyenzenk, a Pole, and a roomer, Wasi Gornobins, at their small wooden residence on the outskirts of Turcot, are dead as a result of a fire in the Toyenzenk home, and the husband is in the Western hospital so seriously burned that it is not likely he will recover.

The fire originated through a lamp exploding in the woman's hands when she went to the woodshed to get wood with which to cook the breakfast.

VETERAN NEWSPAPERMAN'S DEATH AT SIMCOE, ONT.

Orillia, Dec. 15.—After several weeks' illness, Mr. George H. Hale, of Hale Bros., publishers of the Orillia Packet, is dead, at the age of seventy years. He was probably the oldest newspaper man in Simcoe county. He was born in Ontario and came to Orillia from Lindsay in 1868 as foreman of the Expressor. Two years later, with his brother, W. M. Hale, he founded The Packet. He was an able journalist and high-minded citizen.

NO SLACKER WILL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE

Montreal, Dec. 15.—Hon. R. B. Rogers, minister of public works, in an address before the St. Lawrence and Ontario Conservative association, denounced the German peace proposals and said if accepted they would simply mean a German victory.

Mr. Rogers said that when the manpower of Canada is registered through the National Service board the government hopes to reach a stage where no slacker will be able to escape. He regretted that his native province, Quebec, had not kept pace with the other provinces in contributing men and resources, but some of his colleagues had told him that the tide had turned in Quebec.

The minister cited, as an example of the government's economy in these war times, the fact that an appropriation for his own department early in 1914 of \$48,000,000 had been cut to \$28,000,000, and at the next session of parliament he intended to ask that this latter sum be cut in half.

WORKERS GET BONUS

The Imperial Oil Company, Limited, has decided to grant for the year 1916 to all employees of one year or more service (engaged on a monthly basis) one month's salary; and to all similar employees in the service for a period of from six months to a year a bonus of a fortnight's salary. These gifts will be payable to several thousand employees from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

BRITISH TREASURY SEEK POWER TO ISSUE WAR LOAN

London, Dec. 18.—Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced in the house of commons today that Parliament, before it was prorogued, would be asked to pass a bill to authorize the treasury, if the house was not sitting, to issue a war loan. The bill, said the chancellor, would not state the terms of issue and it did not imply that the loan would be issued; it merely would enable the treasury to issue a loan if it thought the time opportune.

It is hoped that parliament may be prorogued on Friday to reassemble early in February.

SIR THOMAS WHITE STAUNCH SUPPORTER

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 in favor of a coalition 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 begin a conversation and the officers going off to dozing off, and the officers going off to dozing off, and the officers going off to dozing off.

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.

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Bowling

Forest Takes Revenge

Two games were played at the Woodbine Saturday last when the Forest team got 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 game 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 Drage 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:

Forest

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

Forest

J. McPhail	159	128	145
P. Forsyth	133	134	147
G. Marshall	118	138	126
J. McCallum	133	132	134
C. Watkins	161	137	136
Total 2078	704	669	688

Forest

Donnell	102	150	139
Kennie	132	137	128
Jones	188	140	140
Henry	173	165	137
Windle	122	137	161
Total	816	729	700

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 day.
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-thing more?"
And too, they confided, he'd held them and smiled—
Too short-lipped 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 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 Galilee.
For a moment I slipped me, my mightiest toy
And my thoughts drifted back to the first Christmas morn
At my window I listened, the stars glancing bright
'Til faintly the echoes were lost in the night
And then 'til the stillness I knealt at my chair
'And brother from my heart just a bit of it pray,
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 wee stockings were woefully lean.
In the midst of my plea, as I knelt to the floor
Came 't 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!
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! 't 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.

Further Appointments Made by Government

London, Dec. 14.—The following appointments are announced: Colonel Kemmis Betty, to be acting director of personal services; Colonel J. V. 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: The 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 monarchial 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 cabinet, 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 for war. He has met the difficulty, if this difficulty can be said to have been met, by instituting something resembling a small and large cabinet, responsible for different duties. At the same time the duties of these two cabinets impinge vitally the whole time upon one another. For instance, the foreign policy of the country, which has passed from the hands of Lord Grey into those of Mr. Balfour, must affect vitally the conduct of the war, as must the management of the admiralty and the war office, the ministry of munitions, the ministry of blockade, and the control of food and shipping. Unless, therefore, the ministers at the heads of the various departments are going to become executive officers for the carrying out of the directions of the war cabinet, Mr. Lloyd George will find himself in the exact position which he declared it was impossible for Mr. Asquith to occupy. The fact, consequently, may as well be admitted at once that Mr. Asquith's fall was due to the dissatisfaction of the house and the government with his direction of the war, and that though the cabinet Mr. Lloyd George has formed is essentially a war ministry, with a small war cabinet, he has none the less become the head of the entire government, as well as a member of the war cabinet.

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 "hobble" 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 master 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 building its walls, and for instance up and down the "Matten horn."

MANITOBA CASUALTIES

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, Wonnepe.
Sergt. 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.
10:30 P.M. LIST	Ottawa, Dec. 18.—At 10:30 p.m., the following twenty-three casualties appeared.
INFRANTRY	Killed in Action
225261 Dominick Ketter, Ingelford.	Sask.
225152 J. G. McDougall, Goodwater.	Sask.
Accidentally Killed	101004 J. Defoe, Brougham, Ont.
Died	793782 Harry Wilkins, Lawrence town, N.S.
Previously Reported Missing, Believed Died of Wounds; Now Missing, Believed Killed in Action	464376 Matt Green, Rutherglen, Ont.
Missing	79196 A. J. Mann, Aylmer West, Ont.
Previously Reported Wounded; Now Wounded and Missing	199189 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.
Wounded	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.
147131 Hans Hagman, Winnipeg.	148482 A. P. Houston, Carman, Man.
880663 J. E. Raymond, Buffalo, N.Y.	584416 Jos. Lawrence, Scotland.
187888 C. W. Lowther, Oxford, N.S.	46725 W. A. McPherson, Foxwarren, Man.

Services

Seriously Ill	3664 Sergt. W. E. Ineson, Toronto.
Wounded	48583 Trooper P. Papineau, Montreal.
Wounded	512142 Lance-Cpl. J. V. Young, Winnipeg.

Services

INFRANTRY	Killed in Action
410255 David Craig, Ottawa.	Previously Reported Wounded; Now Killed in Action
414792 R. G. Lecher, Spring Hill, N.S.	Previously Reported Missing; Now Unofficially Prisoner of War
455139 E. P. McQuade, Port Hope, Ont.	Previously Reported Missing; Now Wounded; Rejoined Regiment
469122 W. F. Tullin, Halifax, N.S.	Previously Reported Prisoner of War; Now Arrived in England.
25040 M. E. Kettericke, 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. Slaughtwhite, Mahone Bay, N.S.	226724 A. M. Gardiner, Ottawa.
144391 Lance-Cpl. C. W. Jaxon, City View, Ont.	

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The Royal Bank of Canada
Incorporated 1869

Capital Paid Up \$ 12,000,000
Reserves 13,236,000
Total Assets 253,000,000

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