

# THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. III. No. 335.

ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1916.

Price: One Cent.

## To-Day's Cables

### Teutonic Allies Still Closing in on Braila

### Russian Emperor Says There can be no Peace Until the Invaders are Driven from Russian Soil

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The net of the Teutonic Allies apparently is fast closing in upon Braila, Roumania's oil and grain centre, on the Danube, having taken Filipecht, 30 miles to the southwest. Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops have now captured the railroad near the towns of Rimnicu and Sarat, relatively the same distance to the east, while the guns of the Dobruja army are still hammering with some success on the Russo-Roumanians at the bridgehead at Macin, on the east bank of the Danube, opposite Braila.

Prior to the fall of Rimnicu and Sarat the Teutonic Allies defeated the Russians on a front of 10 1/2 miles S.W. of those towns while the Teutonic Danube Army captured several fortified villages, according to Berlin War Office. Petrograd admits that Russians and Roumanians have been forced to fall back north to Mogura, but says elsewhere the invaders were defeated with heavy casualties. Since December 22, says Berlin, more than 8,000 prisoners, and 27 machine guns have been captured in Roumania. Artillery duels, sapping operations and attacks by small patrol parties were featured in Wednesday's fighting on the front in France. There have been sporadic battles at several points along the line in Russian Galicia, from Volhynia to the Carpathians, but no important results have been attained by either side. The usual bombardment is in progress in the Austro-Italian theatre. In Macedonia comparative quiet prevails.

The Russian Emperor in the order of the day to Russian army, dealing with Germany's proffer of peace, asserts that the offer was made because Germany feels her complete defeat is near. The Emperor added that the time for peace had not yet arrived and he was confident no Russian soldier would desire peace until the invaders had been driven from Russian soil, and had given the guarantees which would prevent the possible repetition of such treacherous attacks.

### SINKING STEAMER NOT FOUND

NANTUCKET, Mass., Dec. 28.—The steamer Maryland, which was reported on Christmas night as sinking has not been found at a late hour to-night, according to a message received from the coast guard cutter Gresham. The message said—"Gresham is still engaged in the search for the vessel, and believed that if any of the Maryland's boats had succeeded in getting away from the steamer they would have drifted westward in the path of trans-Atlantic steamers."

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## BATTLE IN AIR NINE CASUALTIES

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The report from British headquarters in France issued at midnight reads:—On Tuesday night a party of our troops searched for some few hundred yards of the enemy's front line trenches northwest of Lens, bombing his dug-outs, and doing considerable damage to his defences. After completing that work our men returned with some casualties. Our positions on the right of our lines north of the Somme and near Le Sars were heavily shelled by the enemy at intervals on Tuesday night and Wednesday. Bombardments of enemy's defences and trench mortar emplacements were carried out by us with good results. South of Arras, in the neighbourhood of Hulluch, west of Messines and elsewhere there was the usual artillery activity. On Tuesday much successful work was done by our airmen in co-operation with our artillery. In the course of a number of fights one air hostile machine was destroyed, and five others forced to land in a damaged condition. Three of our machines are missing.

## RUSSIA SENDS REPLY

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Russian reply to the German peace proposals was telegraphed on Monday to the French Government, says a Reuter despatch from Petrograd. It adds: The Swiss Minister has handed the Russian Minister a note from the Swiss Government supporting President Wilson's note.

## CANADIAN AVIATOR TO BE DECORATED

LONDON, Ont., Dec. 28.—Letters from France announce the general officer commanding the British air forces proved conclusively that Lieut. Eddie McKay, the Western University hockey and football star, of this city, was with his fellow aviator responsible for the death of Captain Boelke, the famous German aviator. Decorations by the King is said to be slated for McKay.

## BRITISH MARINE REPORTS WITHHELD

BOSTON, Dec. 28.—News of the movements of British vessels to and from this port will be withheld by agents of the various lines as a result of an order received today from the Head Offices at Liverpool. All sailing lists have been destroyed, and newspaper advertising of expected sailings withdrawn.

## BIG MEAT SUPPLY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The British Government has contracted for the entire exportable supply of New Zealand's meat until for at least three months after the close of the European war, according to reports reaching commerce department from its agents abroad. Higher prices will be paid than for the Dominion export supply commanded last year.

Mr. Edward Spurrel, tailor, of this City, by the last mail had a very kind written letter from Rev. Brother Kennedy, now of New Rochelle, N.Y. It contained a seasonable card also, and the missive showed that Brother Kennedy does not forget his former pupils or his friends in St. John's.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Hon. Secretary-Treasurer of Methodist Orphanage begs gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of cheque for Twenty Dollars from the P. G. Lodge of N.B.D., L.O.A., per Jordan Milley, Esq., Grand Secretary.

## Safety First

A stranger entered the grocery store of his small town and asked for all the stale eggs on hand. As he put the last one in the bag the grocer said facetiously: "Looks as though you were going to see 'Hamlet' played tonight." "No, sir," came the answer grimly, "I am going to play 'Hamlet' tonight."

## Last Night's Cables

### SOCIALISTS ON PEACE

PARIS, Dec. 28.—A Congress of French Socialists today by an almost unanimous vote passed a resolution requesting Entente Allies and governments to reply to President Wilson's note concerning peace, by saying they are ready to tell him their conditions for peace, which must include just reparation for wrongs done by Central Empires. The Socialists also declared they were for such peace as was defined by International Socialist Congress held in London February, 1915. It was decided by Socialists of Entente Allied countries at the London conference that no hope for peace could be entertained until Germany militarism was crushed. Resolutions were also passed urging that Belgium be liberated and compensated. The question of Poland should be solved in accordance with the wishes of the Polish people, and that in Alsace-Lorraine and the Balkans those populations that have been annexed by force, shall receive the right freely to dispose of themselves.

### EMPEROR OF JAPAN ADDRESSES DIET

TOKIO, Dec. 28.—The Diet was opened today by the Emperor, who in his address from the throne expressed his gratification that the relations between the Empire and the Treaty Powers. He declared that the Alliance with Great Britain and the convention with France were becoming stronger, and called attention also to new convention with Russia, which he termed a matter for congratulation. The Emperor explained that he had ordered the Ministers to draft bills necessary for the development of the country, keeping in mind the world situation, and asked the Diet to cooperate in passing these measures.

### DISASTROUS STORM IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A glaze storm which loaded the telegraph and telephone wires with ice seriously interfered today until communications in this State and to a considerable extent throughout east. Some trouble is experienced as far west as Chicago, but conditions reported here as improving. That the direction of the weather bureau unable to calculate the scope or characteristic of storm fully owing to difficulty of gathering information by wire. New York streets were coated with ice and traffic badly hampered. The Panama Canal tug Reliance, formerly the Scully, of New York, sank off Colon Breakwater in a heavy sea today. The tug's master, Peter Evens, of San Francisco, and three negroes, were drowned.

### AMERICAN SKIPPER LUCKY

HAVRE, Dec. 28.—Captain Plater of the American steamer Sacramento, who arrived from Buenos Ayres with a cargo of wheat, reports he was stopped in the English Channel by a German submarine. The commander of the submarine ordered him on board with his papers and after examining them said you are carrying wheat which we consider contraband of war to France. It is lucky for you that your ship is American, otherwise we should have torpedoed her with great pleasure. You can proceed. Good luck to you.

### SWITZERLAND'S NEUTRALITY

PARIS, Dec. 28.—A despatch to the Journal Dec Debats from Geneva says: The Swiss Federal Council has, according to information received here from Bern, received for mal assurance from Germany guaranteeing once more Switzerland's neutrality, on assurances given as result of fear recently prevailing that Germany was preparing to break through Switzerland into France and Italy.

### MISS ASQUITH NOT ENGAGED

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Former Premier Asquith issued a statement to-night, denying that his daughter Elizabeth is engaged to be married. Several London newspapers on Tuesday morning reported the engagement of Miss Asquith to Hugh S. Gibson, First Secretary at the American Embassy, London.

### PTE. MILLER DEAD

Mr. Harold Ayre last evening had a wire from London advising him of the death of Pte. Andrew H. Miller, only son of Mrs. Mary and the late Lewis H. Miller. The deceased soldier succumbed to an attack of pneumonia and the news came as a great shock to his friends, who were not aware of his indisposition. The young soldier enlisted with the 27th Battalion, 6th Canadian Infantry, at Winnipeg, has seen heavy fighting in France and Flanders but escaped without injury. The deceased was in his 32nd year and was the brother of Mrs. Harold Ayre of this city and of Mrs. Eric Ayre, who is now residing in London and was also a nephew of Hon. Donald Morrison. Much sympathy is expressed for the family, from whose members the just war has extracted a heavy toll in the loss of dear ones.

## ENGLAND AND FRANCE AGREE REPLY TO NOTE

LONDON, Dec. 28.—England and France are fully agreed upon the terms of reply to be made to the peace proposals of the Teutonic Allies, the Associated Press learned from the Foreign Office to-day.

It is hoped here that the answer may be despatched by the end of this week, but other nations of the Entente although agreed on principle, may require some verbal operations, which would necessitate further delay. It is expected that once this reply has been forwarded, the response to President Wilson's note will follow very shortly.

## MORE DAMAGE

Yesterday's heavy sea did considerable damage along the East End water front. At Harvey & Co.'s it came under one of the large sheds and lifted part of the flooring. At George Neal's wharf it tore up the earth inside the planking of the wharf in such a way that teams could not go below the arch-way. Some damage was done also at Collin Campbell's and other premises. At Black Head several stages, flags and wharves were damaged, while others were destroyed completely. The sea was the highest seen there for years.

At the Cape Cove, inside Cape St. Francis, four stages were carried away and the sea went higher than ever seen there before, even sending heavy spray up to the light house which has an elevation of nearly one hundred feet above the sea level. At 4 a.m. Cape Spear and Cape St. Francis informed us that the wind had died out to almost calm and that the sea had gone down considerably since last night.

There was a heavy sea at the dry dock premises yesterday and so that damage might not be done to them or the pier several of the ships there had to haul into the stream, but were removed later when the waters became calmer.

## BOWRING SHIPS POPULAR

The popularity of the Bowring ships with our business people was well demonstrated to-day. Teams of all descriptions laden with freight for the Prospero filled Bowring's Cove and extended down Water Street on either side to Ayre & Sons Cove. The Prospero sails north to-morrow afternoon.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

## Allies Will Answer Germany's Proposals

### No Specific Terms Will be Mentioned as Such Depends on Entente Allies Victories

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Communications in concrete form so that the reply may be definitely responsible, and at the same time convey to neutral countries an adequate idea of the aims and purposes for which the Entente Allies are contending. The reason for not stating specific terms is said here to be that the terms of the Allies largely depends upon the extent of the military victory which they confidently expect, and that any statement of terms now would be upon the existing military and territorial situation which the German Imperial Chancellor, Von Bethmann Hollweg claimed was the basis of German victory. It is held that Germany's position to state terms, whereas the Entente terms will become definite when military success have been achieved.

### CHURCH UNION SPEAKERS ON PEACE

THE HAGUE, Dec. 28.—The Dutch section of the World's Union of Churches held crowded meeting tonight at the largest church in the city. The speakers endorsed President Wilson's act of faith in sending his note to belligerents, and exhorted their brethren in belligerent countries to foster the atmosphere in which the idea of peace might be developed.

### PREPARING FOR A PEACE CONFERENCE

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Despatches from the Hague says German agents have arrived at the Hague to make preliminary arrangements for German delegates to peace conference as suggested in the German reply to President Wilson's note.

### NO CONFERENCE EXPECTED

LONDON, Dec. 28.—It is not believed in official circles that there exists any possibility of assembling a peace conference as proposed in German reply to President Wilson's note unless Germany is willing to make suggestions in advance regarding her ideas of terms of peace.

### TWELVE PERSONS KILLED BY TORNADO

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas, Dec. 28.—Twelve persons killed, 23 injured in a tornado which swept over Central Arkansas yesterday.

### ANOTHER TOWN CAPTURED BY HUNS

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—The Teutonic Allies, fighting in Roumania, captured the important town of Rimnik Sarat, on the railroad northeast of Buzen.

### GREEK ARMY DEMOBILIZING

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Greek Government carrying out its promise to demobilize the Greek army and navy is proceeding satisfactory, advances indicate.

Other Messages on page 6

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**A REPORTER for the MAIL and ADVOCATE,**

**apply to EDITOR.**

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