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ALBANIA JOINING THE ALLIES; WAR ON AUSTRIA REPORTED DECLARED

Means Real Assistance, If True, Though Army Only 20,000

General Castlenau Well Satisfied With Defences at Saloniki, and Says Allies Are There to Stay--The Italian Troops in The Balkans

Paris, Dec. 31—The Journal's correspondent at Arlona, Albania, sends the following under Thursday's date:—

"It is reported that Essad Pasha, (provisional president of Albania), has declared war on Austria and Bulgaria. He has 20,000 armed men.

"His action, if confirmed, will be of real assistance to the entente allies."

ARE READY FOR ENEMY AT SALONIKI

Paris, Dec. 31—The situation at Saloniki as General Edouard Castelnau, chief of the general staff of the French army, is said to view it after visiting the Entente forces at that place, is given by the Rome correspondent of the Journal, as follows:—

"A person who discussed the situation at Saloniki, with General Castelnau informs me that the general said:

"'We are at Saloniki and have no intention of leaving. We are waiting for them to attack us, for that they have made up their minds to great sacrifices. I am more than satisfied. I am enthusiastic at the defences prepared.'

"A member of the general's suite declared: 'An offensive at Saloniki would cost the invaders 150,000 men. Anglo-French troops continue to land!'"

Italians in Balkans.

Paris, Dec. 31—The Journal's correspondent at Avlona, Albania, reports under date of Thursday:—

"The Italians now have a fairly strong contingent here and have sent a regiment to Durazzo. All these troops seem intended for garrison duty, and there is no sign that they are preparing to march toward Macedonia, although an effective blow could be struck at the badly equipped Bulgarian army, which could be taken on the flank.

Leave Macedonia Border

Rome, Dec. 31.—The Athens correspondent of the Giornale D'Italia confirms the withdrawal of the Austro-German troops from the Macedonian frontier.

"Some attribute this," says the correspondent, "to fear of an attack by the strong forces gathered at Saloniki, with formidable artillery, others to dissension between the Germans and Bulgarians, and still others to an intention of the Teutons to entrench themselves in the Balkans, as on the French and Russian fronts."

Toulon, France, Dec. 31.—The staff of the Russian legation in Serbia has arrived here aboard an auxiliary cruiser. The vessel also brought the Serbian treasury which was forwarded to Paris, under guard of Serbian officers.

On the Western Front

Paris, Dec. 31—The War Office this afternoon reports:

"In Champagne the enemy made an attempt, last night, to capture by an attack with hand grenades a small observation post near Hill 193. The attack failed completely. The night was relatively calm on the rest of the front."

Austrians Defeated.

Paris, Dec. 31—The capture of 1,500 prisoners by the Montenegrins in an engagement in the Sanjak in which an Austrian detachment was wiped out, is announced in the Montenegrin official statement. The statement admits the recapture of Raskovo Gora by the Austrians.

RESIGNATIONS ARE UNLIKELY

The Situation in England Today —Labor Men to Hold National Conference

New York, Dec. 31.—The London correspondent of the New York Herald cables:

The king returned from Sandringham yesterday and immediately received the premier, Mr. Asquith, at Buckingham Palace, where they discussed the provisions of the bill which is to be introduced in parliament to enforce compulsory service of single men. How great is the king's influence with his fellow countrymen was shown yesterday, when, as a result of his appeal, hundreds of thousands of men in London wore the khaki armlet, the "new badge of courage."

The king was delighted when told that the labor unionists and Irish Nationalists are falling into line in support of the Asquith bill, which is designed to reach only those single men who are fit to fight and will not.

The labor trades will hold a national conference on next Thursday, to consider what action is to be taken officially but, as Arthur Henderson, Will Thorne, Ben Tillett and all other potential leaders of labor forces have come to the conclusion that the single men who can but will not, must be made to fight, it is almost a certainty that the trades unionists of Britain, who have placed patriotism above self ever since they were convinced success for Germany meant death to democracy in Europe, will rally around the flag in support of any reasonable measure designed to win the war for the allies.

London, Dec. 31—There is still gossip of the possible resignations of the Earl of Selborne, president of the board of agriculture, Earl Curzon of Kedlestone, lord of the privy seal, and one or two other cabinet ministers who demand out-and-out conscription, but, according to the Daily Express, which is likely to be well informed in this matter, this difficulty has been composed and there is no longer an expectancy that the conscriptionists will resign.

Much will depend upon the reception, by the cabinet as a whole, at today's meeting, of the draft of the bill providing for compulsion, but the fact that Sir John Simon, secretary of state for home affairs, and Sir Thomas Strong, privy councillor, both supporters of the voluntary system, have been on the drafting committee is regarded as assurance that the bill will prove a compromise which will be generally acceptable. It is further understood that two speeches delivered by Arthur Henderson, president of the board of education and a representative of labor, at labor meetings yesterday, were in favor of the acceptance of the government plan. The parliamentary correspondent of the Daily News still thinks the resignations of Sir John Simon and Mr. Henderson possible.

In Ireland.

The Dublin correspondent of the Times predicts trouble if Ireland is excluded from the operation of the bill. He asserts that the Irish Unionists will take every means to protest against exclusion and that Sir Edward Carson, leader of the Irish Unionist party, will make an emphatic statement of their views in parliament. The correspondent adds that if Ireland is excluded and the rest of the kingdom accepts compulsion the enemies of home rule will be furnished with a powerful argument against that policy, and that hence the Nationalists themselves are in a difficult situation.

LOCAL OPPOSITION CONVENTION HERE JANUARY 10 AND 11

An advertisement in today's Times, signed by Hon. C. W. Robinson and W. E. Foster, calls for a convention, in this city on Jan. 10 and 11, of opponents of the present provincial government.

The executive has prepared resolutions for discussion, and delegates are urged to attend from all parts of the province. It is felt that the condition of provincial affairs calls for this action, and the friends of good government are urged to attend the convention.

BURIED TODAY

The funeral of Martha Annie B. Anderson took place this afternoon from her late residence, Harrison street. Burial services were conducted by Rev. Gordon Dickie and interment took place in Fernhill.

The funeral of James McMonagle took place this morning from his late residence, 20 Acadia street, to St. Peter's church, where solemn requiem high mass was celebrated by Rev. P. C. O'Hare, C. SS. R., assisted by Rev. Joseph Borgmann, C. SS. R. as deacon and Rev. John McDougald, C. SS. R. as sub-deacon. Interment took place in the old Catholic cemetery. Members of the Letter Carriers Association attended the funeral in a body and six of their number acted as pall-bearers. Among the floral tributes was a large cross from members of the Letter Carriers Association.

THE FAMILY BIBLE.

The late Clarence Ward once said to Miss Martin of the public library that he lamented the passing of the old family Bible with its family records, written by the head of the family, giving dates and names of births, marriages and deaths. This formed an authentic history of the family. Miss Martin says that quite lately a family who were trying to find out their part in the Revolutionary War and to prove they were not of German origin, found the information in an old family Bible. Perhaps there is in this a new year suggestion of some value to St. John families.

STEWART-FRASER

In Campbellton on Wednesday evening Miss Isabelle Fraser was united in marriage with William Stewart, formerly of the I. C. R. headquarters staff, Moncton, but now assistant general storekeeper of the I. C. R., with headquarters in Winnipeg. After the ceremony they left for the west.

No Times Tomorrow

The Times will not be published tomorrow, New Year's day. Best wishes to all for 1916.

MAJOR JOHN A. MACKENZIE OF 26TH HIT AGAIN

Back To Trenches Only Fortnight After Recovery

DETAILS NOT RECEIVED

Second Casualty on December 27 Capt. F. F. May, Also of 26th, Coming Home on Three Months Furlough

The news that Major John A. Mackenzie, commanding C Company, 26th Battalion, has been wounded again was received this morning by his mother, Mrs. R. Mackenzie, Wright street.

Major Mackenzie was wounded before, and, after his recovery from the effects of the wound, had returned to the trenches only a fortnight ago. He was wounded the second time on December 27, but details as to the extent of his injuries have not been received.

His many friends throughout the city will await further news will anxiety and with the hope that his wounds are not serious.

Capt. May Coming Home.

Captain F. F. May of the 26th Battalion, who was severely wounded in the back by the explosion of a shell in his dug-out, and who has been in a hospital in England, has been granted three months furlough and is returning to St. John.

JOHN B. ROBERTSON PASSES AWAY IN BOSTON

Former St. John Resident, Aged Sixty-five, Short Time Ill

The death of John B. Robertson, a former resident of St. John, occurred yesterday after a short illness at his home in Boston. Mr. Robertson was sixty-five years of age, son of the late Henry Robertson, who conducted a large crockery store on the north side of King square before the fire. He himself was a well-known citizen and took a prominent part in the work of the volunteer fire department. Since removing to Boston he had been a member of the staff of Jordan, Marsh & Company.

Mr. Robertson is survived by one brother, William, in British Columbia, and two sisters, Miss Henrietta, of Lynn, Mass., and Mrs. Claire of California. Fred. Blackadar of New York, a nephew, will accompany the body to St. John and the funeral will take place at noon tomorrow on the arrival of the Boston train. Interment will be made in the family lot in Fernhill.

JOYOUS TIME AT CHRISTMAS TREAT IN THE FAIRVILLE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL

The annual Christmas treat of the Fairville Methodist Sunday school was held last evening and the capacity of the vestry was taxed in accommodating parents and scholars and friends. A large brilliantly trimmed tree occupied part of the platform, and at the proper time was lighted with candles to the great glee of the youngsters.

The following programme was well rendered: — Hymn, Glory to God; chorus, Boys of the King; recitation, Hazel Linton; mouth organ solo, Thatcher Townshend; recitation, Flossie Polley; recitation, Cecil Henderson; chorus, Christmas Lullaby; hymn, "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come;" recitation, Robert Scott; chorus, Christmas Stockings; recitation, Hazel McCumber; drill, "Following the Star," Misses Eleanor Cline, Vivian McColgan, Elsie Shaw, Ethel McColgan, Edna Shaw, Frances Scott, Muriel Cougle, Audrey McColgan, Irene Stymest and Stella Kirkpatrick; chorus "The Best Old Flag."

The special feature, the drill by ten young ladies dressed in white and carrying lighted candles, was a distinct success. It required forty-five minutes for the drill, and great credit is due the instructors, Miss Gladys Shaw, Miss Blanche McColgan and Stanley Stout.

At the conclusion of the programme Santa Claus appeared and distributed a treat to every child present. The national anthem brought the very joyous time to a close.

FATHER BURKE HERE

Rev. John E. Burke, C. S. P., of Toronto, arrived in the city at noon today from Toronto and will remain in the city over Sunday, the guest of his aunt, Mrs. Timothy Burke, Douglas avenue.

On Sunday evening he will be the chief speaker at a recruiting meeting in the Imperial Theatre. Father Burke is being warmly greeted by old friends here. He is a former St. John boy.

Consul of Four Enemy Powers Under Arrest

London, Dec. 31.—A despatch to the Times from Saloniki, says:

"The consuls of Germany, Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria, with their staffs and families, have been arrested by order of the French General, Sarrail, and taken aboard a French warship.

"Their consulates are now occupied by allied troops."

TOMORROW'S GREAT PARADE FOR RECRUITS

The Final Arrangements — Today With the Sailors in St. John

All arrangements are complete for the big recruiting demonstration tomorrow afternoon here. The men of the militia in the city, excepting those home on New Year's leave, will participate in the procession which will undoubtedly be one of the most interesting in local recruiting annals. The brass bands and a bugle band will be in line. Market Square will be the starting point of the parade which will form up in the following order: 69th band, 69th battalion, 62nd band, 115th battalion, 104th band, 140th battalion, Bugle and, siege battery, Temple band, Cadet and Boy Scouts, City Cornet band, mayor, commissioners and recruiting committee members.

Rain or shine the parade will be held. It is hoped that the crowds downtown will no doubt turn out to witness the demonstration will give a cheer for the lads already in khaki as they march along. The parade will go up Kinstreet to Charlotte, Union, Sydney, (north side King Square, back to Charlotte, to Princess, to Sydney, along Queen Square to Charlotte to St. James, to Carmarthen and into the armory where addresses will be given by military officers and others appealing for more men to join the colors.

Local Drilling

Not until Monday will activities become more brisk in local militia circles. Drilling has been quiet all week, and tomorrow will be a holiday for almost all the troops except during the recruiting parade in the afternoon.

Three Recruits

Three volunteers were accepted for service today at the local recruiting offices. C. H. Campbell joined the siege battery and Alfred Newes of this city, and D. Wasson of Young's Cove, the 115th battalion.

Army Service Corps

A third divisional train is now being mobilized in Montreal and friends in St. John will be interested to learn that Lieut. Ralph H. Gunter of Fredericton, formerly of No. 7 Co., C. A. S. C., has been appointed to the strength. He will be second in command of No. 4 Co., with the rank of captain. Lieut. Underwood who is stationed in Fredericton has also received an appointment to the train, and will be succeeded there by Lieut. Arthur Bruce.

BRITISH CASUALTIES IN DECEMBER, 18548

London, Dec. 31.—British casualties recorded in lists published during December amount to 1,000 officers and 17,548 men. These are the returns from all fronts.

A HITCH

Berlin, Dec. 31—That through train service between Berlin and Constantinople will not be inaugurated on January 11, as planned. The date will be made known soon.

HOME FOR NEW YEAR'S

George and Alfie Ricketts, son of William H. Ricketts, caretaker of the magazine at Fort Howe, arrived home from Halifax this morning to spend New Year's with their parents. The boys are trumpeters with the 3rd Canadian Garrison Artillery in Halifax.

WEATHER MAN SAYS NICE FOR HOLIDAY

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service.

Synopsis—Pressure is low over Alberta and Lower California, elsewhere for the most part decidedly high. Cold weather prevails generally except in Manitoba, where light snow is falling locally.

Maritime—Moderate to fresh north to west winds, fair and cold today and on Saturday.

New England forecasts—Fair tonight; Saturday, increasing cloudiness and warmer; light variable winds.

DOES NOT ACCEPT OPTION OF ENLISTING

Today's Police Court — Liquor Matter Grows Out of Sweet Case

John Kinghorn, who was arrested recently on charge of assaulting his wife and kicking one of his young daughters, was given an option of going to prison or enlisting by Magistrate Ritchie. He decided to go to jail. He was fined $20 or two months for assaulting his wife and warned that he was liable to be sent back to jail for an additional two months without a fine for kicking his daughter.

A young man arrested on a drunkenness charge pleaded for his release promising that he would never appear before him again for violation of any law. He said he left Vancouver recently to go to Liverpool on a visit to his people, but when he arrived in Montreal he was relieved of $75 and as he had only $25 left he came to this city with the intention of enlisting. He promised that if he was allowed to go he would enlist. Magistrate Ritchie sent him below and will probably give him an opportunity of visiting his home in khaki.

The case against Ida Sweet was continued. Evidence brought out disclosed that Mr. Sweet had procured liquor for a soldier and this morning he was found guilty and fined $50 or one month in jail. Regarding the charge of keeping a disorderly house Magistrate Ritchie reserved judgment. While there was evidence that one of the servants was guilty of a charge preferred against her, the court acknowledged that the proprietress may have been unaware of misconduct.

THE HARBOR FISHERIES

The fisheries committee met at noon today to complete arrangements for the sale of the harbor fishery lots on next Tuesday morning. Commissioner Russell presided, and the mayor, Commissioners Wigmore, McLellan and Potts, the common clerk and the city engineer were present.

On motion of Com. McLellan, it was decided that the order in which the lots should be offered should be decided by lot, to be drawn by the auctioneer in the presence of the bidders.

The chairman was given authority to engage an auctioneer.

A communication from fishermen was dealt with. The request that lots A and B, in Courtenay Bay be sold together, instead of separately, was granted, but the request for an extension of the fishery grounds in Courtenay Bay was refused.

The chairman reported that he would have been able to make some advantageous sales, by private arrangement, of lots which were not sold at auction last year, but was prevented by the lack of legal authority. He said the recorder is preparing an amendment to the law which will enable the committee to dispose of the left-overs by private sale.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

Transfers of real estate have been recorded as follows:

St. John County

Coldbrook Realty and Development Co., Ltd., to S. May, wife of C. N. Horseman, property in Glen Falls.

S. H. Ewing, et al, to Beatrice E. Collier, property in Lancaster.

Patrick Myles to Thomas Myles, property in Simonds.

Patrick Myles to George Myles, property in Simonds.

Kings County

J. C. Dunham to S. I. Perry, property in Havelock.

H. P. Keirstead to Roy Stackhouse, $1,200, property in Studholm.

I. B. Marr to I. C. Mercer, property in Norton.

J. D. O'Connell to James Marshall, property in Sussex.

M. J. O'Rourke to F. W. Gaunce, two properties in Studholm.

Helen Perkins to I. B. Marr, property in Norton.

C. H. Ryder to S. I. Perry, property in Havelock.

Fannie Titus to Alexander Scott, property in Upham.

THE ERINS WON

The Erins vanquished the Micmacs in a match in St. Peter's Y. M. A. bowling league last evening, taking all four points in a well contested and interesting game. Richard Colgan led both teams with an average of 93⅔. The score was as follows:

Erins				Total Av.
Cleary	89	81	87	257—85⅔
McCurdy	69	96	88	253—83⅔
Howard	77	94	73	244—81⅓
Duffy	86	92	91	269—89⅔
McIntyre	64	76	87	227—75⅔
	385	439	426	1250

Micmacs				Total Av.
Doherty	79	75	64	218—72⅔
McGovern	64	76	73	218—71
Lundy	73	81	95	249—83
Colgan	77	94	101	282—93⅔
Connell	82	81	80	243—81
	375	407	413	1195

Actor and Millionaire.

New York, Dec. 31—Joe Murphy, actor, best known for his impersonation in Kerry Gow, died early today of pneumonia in this city. He was eighty-three years of age, and left an estate estimated at $3,000,000.

Canadian Prisoner Of Morocco Tribesmen

Steamship Torpedoed, Escapes to Shore Only to be Seized and Held For Ransom

Galt, Ont., Dec. 31.—Few soldiers have met with such adventures as befell Driver J. E. Young of the mechanical transport department, Army Service Corps, who, before enlisting, was a resident of Preston and chauffeur for A. N. W. Clare.

In a letter received by Mr. Clare, Young says: "We left England on a transport for Saloniki. Thirty-six miles past Gibraltar a submarine appeared and started shelling us. Then there was a terrible explosion; we had been torpedoed. I managed to get away in a boat with six holes in it, and by dint of hard bailing, kept afloat until we reached Morocco.

"We were captured by Moore, and held for £200 per head ransom, which the Spanish government got reduced to £90.

"After being prisoners for twenty-eight days a Spanish gunboat took us to Albucemas, where we are interned until the end of the war. We had nine men killed and twelve wounded, but I am not even wounded."

TURKEY AT 45 AND 50 CENTS; CHICKENS 35

Roast beef or roast pork will form the article of diet for the New Year's dinner in many St. John homes. Turkeys, geese, chickens and other poultry are beyond the reach of the average consumer and there were more purchases of staple meats today in the country market and butcher shops about the city than there were of the former.

Some asked fifty cents a pound in the market this morning for turkeys others from forty-five to forty-six cents. Geese were in scanty supply at $3 each; chickens sold at thirty-five cents a pound; fowl at twenty-five cents and roast beef and roast pork twenty-five and twenty cents respectively.

AARON INGRAHAM OF FREDERICTON PUTS END TO HIS LIFE

Despondent Truckman Hangs Himself—Twenty-Five Recruits in Week

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 31—While in a fit of temporary insanity, Aaron Ingraham, a truckman, committed suicide this morning by hanging himself to a beam in a barn. He was a sufferer from asthma, and had been despondent for some time. He belonged to Queensbury, was about fifty years of age, and leaves his wife and one son. He owned the property which he occupied and also a farm at Doak Settlement.

Columbus Dorsey, a colored man from Maine, was arrested for drunkenness and creating a disturbance, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. He will be deported.

Twenty-five recruits for overseas service have been signed on here during the week. Enlistments yesterday numbered nine. The soldiers here will be provided with an elaborate New Year's dinner.

MRS. MARGARET OLSEN.

The death of a former St. John woman, Mrs. Christian Olsen, aged about seventy years, occurred today in Brooklyn, N. Y., after a short illnes. She left this city some thirty years ago and had since resided in the States. Mrs. Olsen was Miss Margaret Sullivan, a sister of Richard Sullivan, and Mrs. Nora Shea of this city, and Mrs. Lucy Olsen, of Halifax. Four sons and one daughter survive. Burial will be in Brooklyn on next Monday.

TWELVE DEATHS

At the board of health offices this week, twelve deaths were recorded. The causes were: One each from bronchopneumonia, arteria sclerosis, myocarditis, pneumonia, impactim, two each from old age and phthisis, and three from apoplexy.

CONGRATULATIONS

Walter S. Colwell, conductor on the Glen Falls route with the street railway, is wearing "the smile that won't come off" today. A little girl arrived at his home in Belleview avenue yesterday.

COLLEGE AT CARAQUET IS PREY OF FLAMES

Sacred Heart Institution Burned Last Night

LOSS QUARTER MILLION

The Insurance is About $100,000 —Some 216 Students in Attendance—Stone Buildings Erected in Early Nineties

News of fire which destroyed the handsome Sacred Heart College owned and conducted by the Eudist fathers at Caraquet, N.B., was received with regret in the city this morning. A fine educational institution is gone, while financially the loss is also extensive, representing between $250,000 and $300,000. The fire occurred about 3 o'clock this morning.

The college was principally patronized by the Acadians in this province, and the students this term numbered 216 boys. There was quite a large staff of instructors under Rev. J. Mery, superior, under whose direction of late years the college has flourished.

It was built by Rev. Father Lorr in the early nineties, between 1890 and 1892, but was not completed until about 1896. Some five years ago further additions were made so that there were several smaller structures surrounding an extensive stone building of commanding appearance. The insurance is about $100,000.

Bristol, Va., Dec. 31—Sullins College, a large Methodist female school here, was destroyed by fire which originated in the boiler room early today. The loss is placed at from $150,000 to $200,000.

GERMAN AVIATION OFFICER IN DISASTER

Paris, Dec. 31.—"A German aviation lieutenant, accompanied by his mechanic, deserted with an aeroplane," says the Calais correspondent of the Excelsior. "They flew over the Dutch border, being greeted by volleys from the frontier guards, and landed at the village of Aardenburg. They have been interned at Flushing."

AN ANNOYING PRACTICE

Some boys appeared in the juvenile court this morning to answer a charge of molesting scholars of Aberdeen school. The charge was preferred by the principal of the school, who said that boys made a habit of snowballing scholars under his charge and he was anxious to have it stopped. Magistrate Ritchie severely reprimanded the boys and warned them that he would see that they stopped annoying scholars and other pedestrians if he had to place them where they would be unable to do so.

THE POLICE TONIGHT

Chief Simpson, interviewed this morning regarding plans for this evening, said he anticipated no trouble ,but intimated that if there was any ocasion for action he would not be found unprepared. He said there was no desire on the part of the authorities to interfere with citizens singing out the old year and heralding the new providing they did so in a proper manner.

British Armored Cruiser Is Sunk

London, Dec. 31.—The British armored cruiser Natal has sunk after an explosion. Official announcement to this effect was made here today.

The Natal was sunk yesterday afternoon while in harbor, as the result of internal explosion. There are about 400 survivors.

The sinking of the Natal is the severest loss which the British navy has sustained in several months. No British naval vessels of importance have been sunk since last May, when the Triumph and Majestic were torpedoed at the Dardanelles. The Natal, although a powerful man-of-war, was laid down eleven years ago, and her displacement was only about one half that of the largest British sea fighters. The Natal's normal complement was 704 men. Her displacement was 13,660 tons. She was 480 feet long, and 73 feet of beam. Her largest guns were 9.2 inch. Of these she carried three forward and three aft. She was armed also with four 7.5 inch guns, twenty-four three pounders and three torpedo tubes.

The Natal brought to New York from Portsmouth the body of Whitelaw Reid, United States ambassador at London, in 1912, remaining at New York for two weeks.