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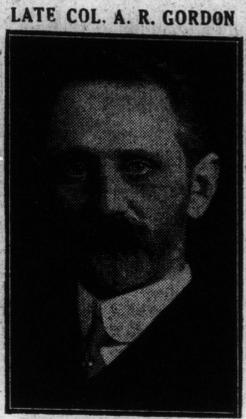
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MONDAY MORNING DECEMBER 18 1916—FOURTEEN PAGES

FRENCH CAPTURE ANOTHER VILLAGE NORTH OF VERDUN Rumanians, Protected by Russians, Continue Their Retreat

LOYD GEORGE TO SET FORTH ALLIES' TERMS
 Premier Will Reply Vigorously to Germany in House Tomorrow.

LABOR GIVES SUPPORT
 Sylvia Pankhurst's Attempt at Peace Demonstration Leads to Riot.



LATE COL. A. R. GORDON CALLED BY DEATH
 Well-Known Toronto Physician Dies After Lingering Illness.
 Had Served Overseas Attached to Staff of University Base Hospital.

GERMANY ASKS HAGUE PALAVER AT EARLY DATE
 Fighting to Continue During Discussion, Starting on January Fifteenth.

MAY CUT ARMAMENTS
 Frankfurter Zeitung Says Germany Might Agree to Adopt Plan.

RUMANIAN PARLIAMENT TO MEET IN PETROGRAD
 Berlin Hears That King of Rumania Will Go to England.

GERMAN SHIP BREAKS THRU BRITISH BLOCKADE, SAYS BERLIN
 Berlin, Dec. 17.—The correspondent at Stockholm of The Lokal Anzeiger telegraphs that during the meeting of the last Rumanian Crown Council it was resolved that the Rumanian foreign office should be transported to Petrograd, the other ministers for the present being established at Kiev. The Rumanian Parliament, it is reported, will meet at Petrograd. King Ferdinand is said to have declared that he would stay one week in Russia and then go to England.

FRENCH WIN VERDUN FIGHT AGAINST SUPERIOR NUMBERS

BRITISH RAIDING FORCES DAMAGE Foe TRENCHES
 German Machine Gun Emplacements Suffer Destruction From Scouting Parties—Teutons Run in Barrage.

Four Gallic Divisions Speedily Defeat Five German—Foe Strenuously Resisted in Extra Strong Defences.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
 London, Dec. 17.—On the British front in France a raiding party entered the German trenches near Bamsart, inflicted a number of casualties and bombed dugouts. Another raiding party entered the trenches of the foe southwest of Wytschaete and destroyed machine gun emplacements. East of Ypres the Germans blew up a camouflaged trench. The British gunners threw out a barrage and they caught therein a party of the foe engaged in approaching their infantry trenches north of Hill 60 in the Ypres salient. This raid was frustrated. Some artillery activity prevailed north of the Acre and north of Ypres in the night.

Wepser Hill, Verdun Front, Dec. 16, via Chantilly, Dec. 16.—From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press—A short, sharp battle brought to the French today their third smashing victory within a period of two months in the vicinity of Verdun. Every objective point of the French commanders was obtained with chronological accuracy. Although the Germans offered a desperate defensive they were like soft clay in the hands of the French troops, who squeezed them into any shape they liked, and only ceased to share them when their own time came. Thousands of German prisoners poured into the French lines during the day, including 200 officers and large groups are still arriving. The total count already is 7500. (The latest French official statement says the number of prisoners exceeds 9000). One division alone captured over 1500 Germans within an hour. More than eighty large and small German cannon were captured or destroyed and many others are known to be buried.

Portuguese Troops to France

Paris, Dec. 16.—Portuguese troops intended for service with the French troops in France, according to quotation in La Patrie from the Portuguese official journal, will be called the Portuguese Expeditionary Corps. It will be under the command of Generals Tamagnini and Almeida d'Eda. The latter is a former governor of Angola and is reputed to be an able strategist.

Take Three Villages.
 The villages of Vocheraville, Louvemont and Bezonvaux and Hamcourt Wood are now in French hands. The front over which the offensive was executed was 10 kilometres long. When the fighting ceased, owing to the darkness, the French advance had exceeded an average of three kilometres along the whole front, at various points rushing further out and threatening the German batteries whose retreat was hindered by the bad condition of the ground.

ARTILLERY FIGHTING CONTINUES IN BALKANS
 Italians Engage in Patrol Encounters With Bulgarian Forces.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
 London, Dec. 17.—Artillery fighting on the front of General Sarrail in Macedonia, is the only incident to report according to the French war office. In the Italian sector patrol engagements were fought with the Bulgarians.

FRENCH FINISH VERDUN DASH WITH SUCCESS

Capture Bezonvaux Village and Part of Caurieres Wood.

FOE ADMITS BEATING
 Allies Take Nine Thousand Prisoners—Nivelle Sees Victory Certain.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
 London, Dec. 17.—The French increased their victory at Verdun by advancing from their new positions on the right bank of the Meuse and capturing Bezonvaux Village, and making progress in the Caurieres Wood, it was announced in last night's official communication issued at Paris. In the evening their progress drew upon them a violent German counter-attack, aimed directly at their positions on the Cote du Poivre. At a given signal, the French three-inch guns were turned on the advancing waves of the enemy and they brought the foe up short. The new front was consolidated in its entirety. Prisoners continued to be brought back. The total number of Germans taken in the advance exceeds 9000, of whom 250 are officers. Up to the time of reporting, the French have counted 81 guns as captured or destroyed. The action was followed by encounters between patrols and a heavy bombardment by the Germans of the new lines at Vocheraville and Bezonvaux, and notably in the sector of the Chambrette Farm. Method Assures Victory. A Paris despatch says: Gen. Nivelle, recently appointed commander-in-chief of the armies in the north and northeast, was present with Gen. Pettain, commander of the French forces in the Solsons-Verdun sector, in the successful operations on Dec. 15, northwest of Verdun, both having collaborated in the preparation. Upon leaving Verdun for his new headquarters, Gen. Nivelle, in taking leave of his staff, spoke as follows: "The test is conclusive, our method has proved sound. Once more the second army has just asserted in the highest degree its moral and material ascendancy over the enemy. Victory is certain. I give you assurance. Germany will learn it to her cost." Foe Admits Loss. A Berlin despatch says: "French forces yesterday continued their attack on the east bank of the River Meuse, in the Verdun region, says today's German army headquarters statement, and after a violent struggle captured Bezonvaux and the wood to the west of that village. The French advance was checked in front of German positions on heights north of Bezonvaux. Attempts of British detachments to enter German trenches near Hannesamps, south of Arras, were sanguinarily repulsed."

DENSE FOG CAUSES SHIPPING MISHAPS
 London Shrouded in Thickest Mist Known in Half Century.
 NUMEROUS COLLISIONS
 Lightship Sunk and Number of Steamers Are Badly Damaged.

London, Dec. 17.—A fog which settled over London yesterday is described as being the most dense in fifty years. From early morning until a late hour, London was a city of perpetual night. The inconvenience was greatest in the evening, owing to the light restrictions. Omnibuses stopped running and taxi cabs disappeared from the streets. People on the streets carried torches. In the Strand torches were lighted and soldiers new to the metropolis had to be led about like blind men.

Accidents to Shipping.
 Numerous shipping accidents are reported owing to Saturday's heavy fog. The crew of the English and Welsh ground lightship have been landed at Barry and report that the lightship was sunk in collision with the steamer Welshman.

The Norwegian steamer Annavaer collided with the Belgian relief steamer Vichtroom, lying at anchor in the Thames. The Annavaer went ashore in a sinking condition. The stern of the Vichtroom was damaged. The steamer Royal, transport, collided in Barry Roads with an unidentified vessel and was compelled to drydock. The steamer North Elmlo was towed to Portsmouth harbor after a collision with the steamer Chloris. The tug Moron, from Buenos Ayres, stranded off Chichester harbor.

London, Dec. 17.—The Weekly Despatch says: "Premier Lloyd George next Tuesday probably will roughly define the entente allies' peace terms and will leave Germany under no doubt concerning our determination to prosecute the war with the utmost vigor until a victory, which will make these terms possible has been secured."

Lloyd's Weekly News publishes special written statements on the subject of the German peace offer by four representative labor leaders: Stephen Walsh, M.P., representative of the Lancashire Miners; James O'Grady, Trades Unionist; C. E. Stanton, M.P., for Merthyr Tydfil, and Lieut.-Col. John Ward, commander of the navvies battalions. All declare that the war must continue until the conditions laid down by Premier Asquith and Lloyd George are achieved, but Walsh in addition contends that the entente allies should take the opportunity to make their position clear before the world. Walsh says: "Should Define Stand."

"Pending the reception of the German proposals it would be foolish in the extreme to feel as though they were only a diplomatic move on the part of Germany. Even if they were, nothing but good should come if the entente allies seize the opportunity to place their case before the world. They can indicate the terms upon which they are prepared to negotiate peace. They could inform neutrals of their policy."

"It would be an act of sublime folly if we were to repeat the mistake of assuming that the German offer means that Germany is rapidly approaching exhaustion. In view of the sufferings and disasters which have befallen the world the allied powers should not take to a merely negative attitude at the present time. That would be a suicidal act."

Peace Advocates Mobbled. Sylvia Pankhurst, the militant suffragette, and a number of sympathizers, endeavored to hold a "demonstration" at the East India Dock gates this afternoon to demand peace. A big crowd assembled and mobbed the speaker. The police interfered and rushed Miss Pankhurst and her friends to the police station, followed by a crowd. The prisoners were held under bail for examination before a magistrate. According to an Amsterdam despatch, The Vossische Zeitung says that a territorial rearrangement based on the idea of the independence of Rumania, is no longer to be considered. This statement, which is based upon information from well-informed circles is followed by a declaration that Russia will receive as an equivalent for a considerable territorial sacrifice, which is to be demanded of her. Poland, the article adds, is to be made an independent kingdom. Courland is to become a German federal state, Lithuania is to be incorporated in Prussia, Dobruja is to be returned to Bulgaria, and Wallachia is to be divided between Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria.

MRS. MARY GALVIN FOUND DEAD.
 Mrs. Mary Galvin, 66 years of age, residing at 123 Pembroke street, was found dead in her room Saturday afternoon by her brother. Heart failure is said to be the cause of death, and an inquest will be held.

COL. A. R. GORDON HAD SERVED OVERSEAS
 Attached to Staff of University Base Hospital.

Lieut.-Col. Andrew R. Gordon died at his residence, 72 De Lisle avenue, Saturday evening, after a long and painful illness. He was the fifth son of the Rev. Donald and Mary Robertson Gordon, and was born in Glen Garry County in 1843. Later the family moved to western Ontario and Colonel Gordon matriculated from St. Mary's Collegiate into Toronto University, where he completed the course in medicine with honors, and where he later was for many years professor of clinical medicine. After graduation he settled in Toronto and enjoyed an extensive and exacting practice.

Colonel Gordon was possessed of a winning personality and in a singular manner won and held the esteem and sincere affection of his many patients and friends. In 1913 he gave up general practice to devote himself to special work on the heart and spent the greater part of the year in London, Eng., working in conjunction with Sir James McKenzie. When Toronto University Base Hospital was organized, Colonel Gordon was appointed to the staff and went overseas with the hospital in May, 1915. He was invalided home in July, and after undergoing an operation for appendicitis, was attached to the medical staff at Exhibition Camp, where he served until he was taken ill the following April. In religion he was a Presbyterian and a member of Bloor Street Presbyterian Church. Colonel Gordon is survived by his widow, 2, son, Lieut. A. R. Gordon, and a daughter, Margaret Helen; also three brothers, Col. J. R. Gordon of Sudbury, Major C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor), Lieut.-Col. Henry Gordon, and a nephew, Capt. Athol Gordon, all on active service in France. The funeral will be under military auspices, the time of which will be announced later, as the family are expecting Major C. W. Gordon's arrival in Canada, today, from France.

CANADA IS DRUNK WITH PROSPERITY

J. W. Flavell Criticizes War Profiteers and Spirit of Partisanship.
 SHELLS OUTPUT GREAT
 Huge Chain of Factories Turning Out Munitions for Allies.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—"Is it not 'business as usual'—and profits larger than usual?" asked J. W. Flavell, chairman of the imperial munitions board of a crowded audience when he addressed the Ottawa Canadian Club on "munitions in Canada."

"Am I stating it too strongly if I say we are almost drunk with prosperity? Is there evidence in this country of national sorrow and concern?" Mr. Flavell spoke feelingly of Canada's relation to the war, especially as it concerned the production of munitions. He gave surprising facts and figures of the vast extent of the munitions industry in Canada. He pointed out the board, and after emphasizing the vital importance of these, spoke of the absence of a realization of the part who were serving in the trenches. He had something to say of partisanship, too, saying that he could not conceive of a condition where party politics had been more bitter and insistent than in the munitions industry. He said that he had seen in Ottawa during the last year.

Like a Horse Race. "It is as if a horse race were on, in which a great war in which the very life of the nation is at stake," he said. Mr. Flavell said that the board with which he was associated was responsible for the production of munitions in Great Britain.

The extent of the organization, the character of the work, the number of men who were serving in the trenches, he said, was a matter of which the board would occasion surprise, said he. In the head office at Ottawa, there were 800 men and women, and scattered over the Dominion were 4,000 inspectors. To all he paid tribute to their loyal and efficient support. He also praised the business and professional men who gave up their duties, or loaned their most efficient servants to the war effort.

RUMANIANS KEEP ON WITH RETREAT

Germans Throw Main Forces Across Buzeu and Calmatuul Rivers.
 LOSE FEW PRISONERS
 Russian Cavalry, Protecting Retirement, Try to Bring Foe to Action

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
 London, Dec. 17.—In their retirement before the main forces of Germans and Austrians under Field Marshal von Mackensen, the Rumanians have retired to the region of the Buzek-Rymniku-Sageth road and railway line, and to the region of Batouzi, south of the station of Phipeschil. Russian cavalry which had come up to protect the Rumanians, twice rushed to attack the German cavalry, but this force did not accept battle and it retired, following the German infantry, in the region of Batouzi the attacks of the Teutons were repulsed.

The Germans report that their armies have crossed the Buzeu and the lower Calmatuul Rivers, in eastern Wallachia. Their army has also gained ground to the northward in the Dobruja. The Rumanians explain this by saying that the enemy attacked one of their detachments with large forces in the region of Testmele, and that he occupied this village.

The Germans also say that the Buzeu sector in northeastern Rumania was crossed on a broad front and they took 1150 prisoners, 10 locomotives, about 400 railway cars, motor-laden, and innumerable vehicles. They also report later that they made a rapid pursuit of the Rumanians, who retreated close to the forest district where resistance is expected. The Russian Black Sea Fleet sailed from the port of Batouzi on the Dobruja coast.

SIR MAX AITKEN ENTERS PEERAGE
 Former Official Eye-Witness With Canadians is Again Honored.
 RISE HAS BEEN RAPID
 Hon. Charles Stuart-Wortley Also Has Peerage Conferred Upon Him.

London, Dec. 16.—The King has conferred a peerage on Sir William Maxwell Aitken and the Right Hon. Charles B. Stuart-Wortley, members of parliament respectively, for Ashton-under-Lyne and the Hamill division of Sheffield. Thus two Unionist seats in the house are vacated for members of the new cabinet.

Sir William Aitken was formerly official eye-witness with the Canadian troops. He was born in Canada and was knighted in 1911.

While Sir Max Aitken has not been at the front for some time, the above despatch is the first intimation that he has personally given up his duties as eye-witness.

Sir Max, who was born at New Castle, N. B., 27 years ago, is probably the youngest Canadian who has been conspicuous with the peerage. He was conspicuous as a Montreal financier until a few years ago, when he removed to Britain to enter politics. His most outstanding financial exploit was the formation of the Canada Cement Company. He was given a baronetcy a short time ago.

Schleswig, Prussia, Adopts Conscription of Schoolboys

London, Dec. 17.—A Reuter despatch from Copenhagen says that the Government of Schleswig, Prussia, has proclaimed civil conscription of schoolboys. They will be used particularly for railroad work and the loading and unloading of trucks of which there is a shortage.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

THE French have won a greater victory before Verdun than even the first official bulletins indicated, for they took more than 9000 German prisoners and they thoroughly defeated and virtually destroyed five German divisions. Only four French divisions, or about 48,000 bayonets, were used in the action. The most important point for notice about the fighting was that it was an additional test of the new allied tactical method of breaking thru defences consisting of trenches and of barbed wire entanglements, and that in the judgment of Gen. Nivelle, the test was conclusive and the method has proved sound. He told his staff before departing for his headquarters that allied victory is now certain and that Germany would learn it to her cost.

The Germans, it seems, knew in advance that the French were on the point of attacking their north of Verdun, and they had elaborately prepared to resist the attack. So it was not because they were surprised that they were defeated, but because the allies have developed a system of attack that the enemy cannot hope to beat. The

next British and foreign mails for letters and registered matter only, will close at the general postoffice as follows: Regular mail, will close at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday. First supplementary, at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, and second supplementary, at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday. Parcel post mail will close at 9:00 p.m., Wednesday. Advance mail.

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(Continued on Page 2, Cols. 6 and 7).

(Continued on Page 7, Column 5).