ENTENTE PLAN REPLY TO PEACE TERMS

Circulation Last Week 280,080

Daily Average, 46,680

London Advertiser

HOME **EDITION**

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO ME DAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31, 1917.

PRICE, TWO CENTS.

53rd YEAR. No. 22968

MANITOBA TO FIGHT INCREASED FREIGHT RATES

THE LEANING TOWER

SERIOUS, REASONED REPLY TO TEUTON'S PEACE TERMS WILL BE MADE BY ALLIES

Manchester Guardian Announces That Great Britain Will Answer Offer When Presented occurred Officially--Lloyd George To See Clemenceau were patrol encounters north of the Chemin-des-Dames (Aisne front) and In Connection With Statement of Terms. "Everywhere else the night was

London, Dec. 31 .- The Manchester Guardian says it is the intention of the British Government, when the Austro-German terms of peace are presented officially, to return a serious and reasoned reply. Premier Lloyd George has arranged to visit France, according to the newspapers, to confer with Premier Clemenceau on this subject.

The Austro-German peace terms referred to are those presented by the representatives of the Central powers at the negotiations with the Russians at Brest. Litovsk. These negotiations were interrupted for ten days to give the Entente Allies opportunity to state whether they would join in them. The principal point in the Austro-German outline of peace terms was the acceptance of the Russian formula of no annexations or indemnities.

SCORES APPEAL PROSPERITY THE TO COMMISSION RULE IN CANADA, TO SECURE COAL SAY PREMIERS

Besiege Utilities Department Report Good Year and Cheerfor Fuel When Dealers'

ful Optimism for the Stocks Disappear.

and Quebec All Tell of

Happy Conditions.

Good Year For Ontario.

ig the past year, and has every reason

Martin's Good Work.

NO NEW SUPPLY ARRIVES ONTARIO HAS DONE WELL

The Situation Locally Again B. C., Saskatchewan, Alberta Reaches Acute Stage-Wood for Emergency.

again reached the acute stage. No coal is coming in. Not a oar reached the city Sunday. The bins of the majority of the dealers are empty, and it is safe to say the same about a large portion of residents of the city.

The utilities commission today of the dealers are empty and it is safe to say the same about a large portion of residents of the city.

The utilities commission today of the commission today of the commission today. The utilities commission today received some fifty appeals for fuel. The najority of these came from poor people. Many of them were satisfied to take wood. In other cases the city secured a small quantity of coal from several of the dealers and sent wagons to deliver it. At 11 o'clock today, seventeen residents of the city appeared at the municipal wood yard to get a supply of wood. They were out of coal, and as wood. They were out of coal, and as a last resort were willing to heat their shins in the old-fashioned way.

It was suggested to Chairman Thomas It was suggested to Chairman Thomas Rowe of the school board that the schools of the city might be closed to conserve fuel. The chairman said that the school used soft coal and have a supply on hand. The closing of the schools would not save a pound of hard coal would not save a pound of hard coal twenty to suggest that it close the schools to release the school fuel supply for general use.

Mayor Stevenson has sent word to Ottawa to the fuel controller. C. A. Magrath, recommending that Joseph Hill, and hand the school supply for general was to the fuel controller. C. A. Magrath, recommending that Joseph Hill, school and hand the school during the school supply for general was to the fuel controller. C. A. Magrath, recommending that Joseph Hill, school and hand the school during the school supply for general was to the fuel controller. C. A. Magrath, recommending that Joseph Hill, school and hand the school during the school during the school during the school during the school during the school during the

It will be remembered some time ago that a policy of naming local fuel controllers was announced. These men were to look after the needs of the municipality where they are appointed, to see that there is a fair and equitable distribution of all coal coming into the city, and preventing those who have at least two tons in their cellars from increasing their stocks.

The mayor declared himself as of the opinion that Mr. Hill is a proper man for the place. He was formerly secretions as a policy of the place. He was formerly secretically appears to the controllers was announced.

Hon. W. M. Martin's Good Work.

Hon. W. M. Martin's premier of Saskatchewan: "There is no doubt that the province today is in a better condition financially than ever before."

Hon. G. H. Murray, premier of Nova Scotia: "In general, conditions are satisfactory."

Hon. A. E. Arsenault, premier of Prince Edward Island: "Our farmers have had a good year."

Sir Lomer Gould Work. creasing their stocks.

The mayor declared himself as of the place. He was formerly secretary of the Trades and Labor Council, and served overseas in a construction battalion. He was invalided home some time ago.

Commission Ignored.

The utilities commission, which has been delegated to manage the municipal colal yard, made a request that it be allowed to act as the local fuel controller.

CHARGED WITH TREASON.

Nome, Alaska, Dec. 31.—Earl Rogers, editor of the Nome Industrial ers, editor of the Sir Lomer Gouin, premier of Quebec:

Sir Lomer Gouin, premier of Quebec:

We may surely be permitted to be optimistic and in no sense to despair of on country's future, notwithstanding the dark days through which we have been passing since 1914, and in spite of the large amount of the national debt.'

Hon. W. E. Foster, premier of New Brunswick: "Total trade of \$220 000,000 the large amount of the pateways of the Empire. Back of this gateway lies a rich and fertile province, resources yet undeveloped, possibilities yet untouched."

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Hon. W. E. Foster, premier of Ne

torial board of the paper, which by a miners' union, were ar-Sunday for alleged seditious which it is charged appeared

HAIG HITS BACK. REGAINING MOST IMPORTANT AREA LOST ON SUNDAY

Germans Drive On Cambrai Front, But Are Sharply Checked.

Paris, Dec. 31 .- "Artillery actions last night northwest of theims," the war office reports. There

London, Dec. 31.-The British in cambrai front have regained the more important territory on Welsh ridge taken by the Germans in yesterday's attack, the war office reports. The announcement follows:

"On the Cambrai front, as a result of successful counter-attacks in "On the Cambrai front, as a result of successful counter-attacks in which we captured prisoners and machine guns, we regained the more important part of the positions on Welsh ridge, into which the enemy penetrated yesterday. The enemy still retains a portion of our front trench in the vicinity of La Vacquerie and south of Marcoing.

"On the Ypres front by a minor operation last night our line was advanced a short distance on both sides of the Ypres-Staden railway."

HEAVY FIGHTING.

HEAVY FIGHTING.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—There was heavy fighting today south of Cambrai, The Germans made a strong attack on a front of about two miles, according to Field Marshal Haig's report from head-quarters tonight. They succeeded in gaining a foothold at two points but later were ejected in part by British counter-attacks. The text of the statement reads: counter-attacks. The text of the statement reads:

"At dawn today the enemy made powerful local attacks on a total front of over two miles, against our position on the spur known as Welsh Ridge south of Cambrai. In the centre the enemy was repulsed, but on the right, to the north of Laverquerie, and on the left to the south of Marcolng, his enemy was repulsed, but on the right, to the north of Laverquerie, and on the left to the south of Marcoing, his troops succeeded in effecting a lodgment in two small salients in our lines. "Our counter-attacks have ejected the enemy from a portion of these positions, and we have taken a number of prisoners. The fighting is continuing in both localities. "Early this morning hostile raiding parties which attacked our positions in the neighborhood of Gonnelieu, were repulsed with loss. repulsed with loss.
"On the remainder of the front there was only the usual artillery activity on both sides."

BERLIN ADMITS IT. Berlin, Dec. 31—Via London.—The British have recovered part of their lost territory on the Cambrai front, near La Vacquerie, the war office announces. The losses of the British are said to

MINE EXPLOSION COMPARING PAST YEARS

are reported killed by a gas explosion The following are extracts from these in the Underwood mine of the Pennsyl-

AT BUFFALO IS BURNED

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last afford such bait, with a 34-mill tax rate which Judge Judd when he was mayout the such bait with a 34-mill tax rate which Judge Judd when he was mayout the such bait with a 34-mill tax rate which Judge Judd when he was mayout the such bait with the such bait which Judge Judd when he was mayout the such bait with night: Highest, 8 above; lowest, 11 be-The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 9 above; lowest, 7 below.

TOMORROW-FAIR AND COLD. Toronto, Dec Forecasts. Partly fair and not so cold, with some light local snow today and on Tuesday.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today.

REACHES A STUPENDOUS MARK Toronto, Dec. 31 .- The value of production in Canada during the year ending today from field crops, forests, mines and fisheries, according to the Monetary Times, was approximately \$1,507,687,000, compared with \$1,275,734,812 in 1916. The value of production (field crops, mines, fisheries and forest products in 1908), was \$703,590,000. For the first time on record, in 1917, the value of Canada's field crops was over \$1,000,000,000. This was due to the high prices prevailing.

the German Government is

aind the peace negotiations

tempting to disguise the facts be-

Brest-Litovsk by the widely circulated story that the kaiser

delegated to Chancellor von Hert-

ling the power to make peace, and

that the pan-Germanic press is deeply irritated at the peace terms

proposed by the German delegates. The apparent displeasure of the

pan-Germanic element is regarded

by officials here as probably in-

spired for the purpose of indicating the confidence of the public in Germany's power to dictate peace

The story that the kaiser was

yielding more power to his chan-celor has not been borne out by

any facts received at the state de-

The state department today was

r otherwise, that the American

peace conference is desired. It has

been indicated that unless it came

through some official channel it probably would bring nothing more

the Soldiers.

still without any intimation, official

Government's participation in

than a formal announcement.

partment.

ALL THAT PREVENTS 58-MILL TAX RATE A CAMOUFLAGE

Unmasking of Reason for the 34-Mill Rate.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 31.-Many miners Revenue Nearly Doubled Without Touching the Nominal

At noon seventeen men, some under the mine.

At noon seventeen men, some under too-innocent tax of 34 mills and the grave danger for Mayor Stevenson of another term for Mayor Stevenson The actual 1911 tax lates to the enormously increased assessment, which has nearly doubled in ten years, so providing double the revenue with the same

back three administrations to that Buffalo, Dec. 31.—Fire today burned the Woolworth five and ten cent store on Main street and spread through the block to Pearl street on the west and Court street on the south. The total loss was \$125.000. Acquain and the money spent this year. who got along with little more than one-third the money spent this year.

The first tax rate of his worship's immediate predecessor, Coi. Graham, was between 22 and 23 mills, but on an assessment like that year of, say, \$29,-000,000, Mayor Stevenson would be com-pelled to strike not merely 34 mills but a rate of not less than 46 mills.

Chan fish no overdrafts and a sur-

Cheap fish, no overdrafts and a sur lus of \$5,000 make pretty good bait fo would have called 58

ELECTIONS NOT LIKELY IN LAND OF THE ANZACS

London, Dec. 21.—Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.—It is understood at Melbourne that the Nationalist party is unlikely to do anything calculated to bring about an election. Approximately 130,000 referendum votes are still to be secured. Wellington reports that the the New Zealand hemp industry in order to divert labor to harvesting.

AUSTRALIAN FORCES ARE AGAINST CONSCRIPTION weloped, possibilities yet untouched."

BROKE A LEG

Wingham Dec. 31.—Yesterday afternoon J. J. Cunninghame, manager of the Western Foundry, broke a leg while walking on the new skating rink.

Montreal 18 — 38 Clear Clear Clear Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

The weather has moderated in the Western Foundry, broke a leg while walking on the new skating rink.

Montreal 18 — 38 Clear Clear Clear Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

The weather has moderated in the Western Provinces, but continues very cold from the Ottawa Valley eastward. London, Dec. 31 .- Via Reuter's - rtforces, hitherto announced \$1,000 fro

OF HUN LINE BEFORE DIAZ

Berlin Admits to Losing Ground by French Offensive in Northern Italy.

Rome, Dec. 31.-In the Monte Tomba region on the northern front, the French have captured enemy positions between Osteria di Monferena and Maranzine, the war office announces. They also captured about 1,400 men, 60 machine guns and 7 cannon.

Berlin, Dec. 31-French forces on the northern Italian front yesterday took the offensive. In the afternoon the French infantry penetrated portions of the Austro-German positions on Monte Tomba, the German general staff announced to-

C. R. SOMERVILLE MOST OPTIMISTIC

Organization Has Been Thorough and They Are Satisfied.

BIG VOTE IS ANTICIPATED

Records for Mayoralty Fight Will Be Broken Tomorrow, It Is Believed.

By tomorrow night the C. R. Som-

try today. There is an army of work- gomery. ers on hand, and whether or not Mr. Somerville is elected, it is anticipated that the vote cast will be the heaviest in the city's history. The record to commissioner, and A. O. Second, Ald. P. H. Second and F. J. Calbeck for street railway commissioner. date is slightly over 8,000.

In the committee rooms the lists have been posted and are checked up to date with the reports of the canvassers. It was first planned to hold a couple of factory meetings at noon today, but these were called off so that the workers might be able to give their undivided attention to the organization. on the outside there is an even more perfect organization. Canvassers have covered all parts of the city. The house-to-house canvass was almost completed at noon after an almost solid week's work. The women are not being neglected. There was close to 4.500 women in the city

BOLSHEVIKI REVOLT women are not being heightected. This are close to 4,500 women in the city entitled to vote. In the past not more than 25 per cent of these have voted. This year the Somerville organization plans to get out at least 50 per cent of WAS MADE AT BERLIN these.

"The outlook is most promising," said one of Mr. Somerville's leading workers today. "Our candidate has fought a splendid and clean battle. He should be elected."

To Six Billion Mark, leading workers today. "Our candidate has fought a splendid and clean battle. He should be elected." Lenine Commissioned To Sow Dissatisfaction Among

LOWER CALIFORNIA TO BECOME PART OF STATES London, Dec. 31.—The Times prints a long letter from its Petrograd corre-spondent, dated Saturday, which pur-ports to substantiate the view that the San Francisco Dec. 31.—Fielding J. Stilson, a Los Angeles capitalist, announced here today he had been adi revolt was managed and that the movement vised that he was to be appointed "dip-lomatic representative at Washington"

Bolsheviki revoit was managed by Germany and that the movement is essentially anti-national and anti-Russian. The latter says: "It is a notorious fact, and has been proved by documents in possession of the Kerensky Government, that Germany commissioned Lenine and gave him money to got a pressua to some disaffection in the of Governor Estaban Cantu of Lower California, "I believe," he said, "this foreshadows the secession of Lower California from Mexico."

AGAINST FREIGHT RATE RULING OF RAILWAY COMMISSION: WILL TAKE MATTER TO GOV.-GENERAL

Premier Norris Says Province's Rights Have Been Ignored -Agreement With Canad ian Northern Giving Protection Having Been Overrid den in Unjustified Manner-Wires Rowell That Case Will Be Taken to the Supreme Court of Canada If Neces sary.

Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—"The position Rowell, acting premier at Ottawa, as folaken by the railway commission is wholly unjustified in my opinion," said Premier Norris, in a statement given out at the Parliament Buildings today regarding the recent decision in the rates case. "How the commissioners arrived at such a decision in the face of the matter submitted to them at the Winnipeg hearing of the application is more than I can understand. The finding is certainly not logical, and I disagree with all its principal points.

tainly not logical, and I disagree with all its principal points.

"This Government is particularly concerned with the action of the commission in brushing aside what is known as the Manitoba agreement with the Canadian Northern Railway. By that agreement the people of the province were protected as we thought for a long time to come in the matter of freight rates. We paid for that protection in a specific way, by pledging our credit to support the railway company in its undertakings. The company derived benefits on its side, and we derived some benefits no its side, and ignove the rights of the province. Ry cousenting to tails increase of rates, it supplements the benefits that accrue to the company and deprives us of any advantages that we have been enjoying in consequence of the agreement.

Doesn't Hold Water.

"It is true that the commission uses due to the inability of the company "It is true that the commission uses as an argument in support of its action the fact that the Dominion Government has practically assumed the liabilities of the Canadian Northern Railway, and there is a possible inference that the province is relieved of its burden of guarantees in that connection. That argument does not hold water. In the first place, the province has not been relieved and only a suggestion to that effect has

"With all due deference, we protest emphatically against the recent decision of the railway commission, and we intend to present at once a petition to the governor-general-incouncil. Pending the consideration of that petition, we request your Government to take steps to see that he proposed rates do not go into effect."

May Go to Court.

place, the province has not been relieved and only a suggestion to that effect has been heard as yet. In the second place the contract was absolute as between the railway company and the province. To interfere with it constitutes an invasion of provincial rights.

"We shall not meekly bow to the ruling that has been issued. We fought the issue here to the best of our ability last June and we shall continue to fight it. I have sent a telegram to Hon. N. W.

MUNICIPAL NOMINATIONS AT GUATEMALA

erville mayoralty organization will know whether or not its efforts have been successful. The committee rooms on Dundas street were a hive of indus-City a Ruin. Andrew McFarland was elected hydro

> Central and South American Telegraph FOUR AT STRATFORD.
>
> Stratford, Dec. 31.—The municipal nominations today for mayor are: Dr. J. D. Monteith, Duncan Scott, Col. J. L. Youngs and S. L. Ireiand.
>
> For utilities board two to elect: W. J. McCully, Angus McDonald and Wm. Nicho!.
>
> WEST RE-ELECTED.
>
> Weodstock, Dec. 31.—W. S. West, office and large churches are demolated and wrecked. The post-office and large churches are demolated and large churches are demolated and large churches are demolated and large churches are demolated. Woodstock, Dec. 31.—W. S. West, mayor for 1917, was this morning elected by acclamation to serve for 1918.
>
> E. C. Thornton and R. E. Butler, retiring water commissioners were also several looters have been good. The his morning elect-o serve for 1918.
> c. E. Butler, retir-several looters have been shot. The several looters have been shot. The president of Guatemala has ordered the president of the city to leave. Ter-

Leaving Fine Balance BRITISH BRING DOWN 5 FLIERS

Score Heavily Over Germans In Air Combat On Sunday.

American Exports Go The Gira Dillian Man and a large of the carbon fine at intervals of about five minutes. The death total is estimated at 1,000. All telegraph where in the interior are

Washington, Dec. 31.—America's exports were estimated today at the department of commerce to have passed the six-billion-dollar mark in 1917. Imports were less than \$3,000,000,000, and the trade balance in favor of the United States probably will be more than \$3,150,000,000.

BRITISH WAR MINISTER HOPES FOR A VICTORY

Government, that Germany commissioned Lenine and gave him money to go to Russia to sow disaffection in the Russian army."

MRS. SMITH TO RUN.
Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 30.—Mrs.
Ralph Smith, widow of the late Hon.
Ralph Smith, window of the late Hon.
Ralph Smith, minister of finance in the British Columbia Government, announced yesterday that she would be by-election in Vancouver. made netrian steamers seized by the Russians in the course of the war, will be restored to their Austrian owners in keeping with an agreement reached at the Street Litovsk, according to a dispatch from Vienna. The total gross tonnage of the ships is 40.000.

Camtornia from Mexico."

MRS. SMITH TO RUN.
Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 30.—Mrs.
Ralph Smith, widow of the late Hon.
for finance in the British Columbia Government, announced yesterday that she would be by-election in Vancouver. made necoessary by the death of her husband in the field as an independnt candidate to their Austrian owners in the field as an independnt candidate the Street Litovsk, according to a dispatch from Vienna. The total gross tonnage of the ships is 40.000.

Camtorna from Mexico."

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Ralph Smith, widow of the late Hon.
Ralph Smith, who lost the tawa Agency.—Lord Cord Lord Cord Lord