

FIERCE FIGHTING IN POLAND GERMAN IS TRYING TO FORCE WAY THROUGH TO THE RUSSIAN FRONT

RUSSIANS HAVE CROSSED THE CARPATHIANS FOR THIRD TIME

Fighting Fiercely in Poland for Strategic Positions — Austria Again Driven from Greater Part of Galicia—Lull Along Battlefront in West — Australians Annex Another of the Solomon Islands which Germans Held — Greece Ready to Mobilize at Any Hour.

London, Dec. 31.—The new year finds belligerent Europe, after five months of war, fighting as sternly as at the beginning, but seemingly without prospects of immediate big victories which the combatants have set as their task.

The Austrians again have been driven out of the great part of Galicia, and according to a Vienna statement, the Russians have crossed the Carpathians for the third time; but in Poland, where the more important battle is in progress the armies of the Russian and German Emperor's are still fighting for the banks of the rivers which intersect the country between the Upper Vistula and Pilica rivers.

SMALL VILLAGE A STRATEGIC POINT.

In Flanders and France there has been a lull in the fighting on most of the front, disturbed occasionally, however by artillery fire and infantry attacks and counter attacks. The French tonight announce that they have carried half of the village of Steinbach, in Upper Alsace, which, while of little or no importance itself, stands at the foot of a hill which commands a large part of the surrounding country. It is in this region, as in the vicinity of Noyon and between the Argonne ridge and the Meuse, that the French have been pushing their offensive with the greatest force, and where they claim to have made the most progress.

Along the Belgian coast the fighting is confined to artillery bombardments, and Westende and many other little towns which long ago were deserted by their civilian populations have been made the target for shells of the Allies.

Walfish Bay, a British possession on the coast of German Southwest Africa, which the Germans took at the commencement of the war, has been retaken by the Union of South Africa forces, while the Australians have annexed Bougainville Island, another of the Solomon Islands over which flew the German flag, and about the last of the German islands in the Pacific.

LONDON OBSERVES NEW YEAR'S EVE BUT LESS GAYLY.

In London New Year's Eve was celebrated by the usual dinners and dances at hotels and restaurants, but with less gaiety, and on a much smaller scale. At the larger hotels, however, there was a large attendance of officers on leave or waiting to go to the front, many French and Belgians who were driven from their homes by the war, and a considerable sprinkling of Americans.

The list of New Year's honors offered by King George on the recommendation of the Premier and the Foreign and Colonial Offices, was very short and contained no new peerages. At the head of the list are the Earls of Derby and Chesterfield, who get the Order of the Garter for their services in recruiting, and Baron Lovat, who receives the Order of the Thistle for the same reason. The Earl of Aberdeen, whose retirement from the Lord Lieutenantcy of Ireland is anticipated, is raised to the rank of Marquess. Canada participated in the honors by the appointment of George Halsey Perley and Clifford Sifton as Knights Commander of St. Michael and St. George.

AUSTRIAN NAVAL BASE UNDER BOMBARDMENT

Thirty British and French Warships Hammering at Pola and Rovigno—British Flag Hoisted Over Island of Bougainville, Which Germans Have Held.

Copenhagen, Dec. 31 (via London).—A private despatch received here from Berlin says that over thirty French and British warships are at present engaged on the bombardment of Pola, the Austrian naval base on the Adriatic, and also the export of Rovigno about fifteen miles away.

LARGEST OF SOLOMON ISLANDS TAKEN FROM ENEMY

Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 31.—(via London, 4.40 p.m.)—British forces have occupied Bougainville, the largest of the Solomon Islands. It was announced here today that the British flag had been hoisted over the island on December 9.

WALFISH BAY OCCUPIED BY BRITISH

London, Dec. 31.—A despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company from Capetown says that Walfish Bay, on the southwest coast of Africa, was re-occupied Christmas Day without opposition by a strong British force.

TAX ALL WHO HAVE NOT JOINED COLORS IN FRANCE

Havre, Dec. 31, via Paris.—The Municipal Council of Havre today adopted a resolution urging that all Frenchmen who have not joined the colors be taxed. It is suggested that the proceeds be used for the benefit of the wounded, and also for the widows and orphans of the victims of the war.

TRYING TO STIR UP ANOTHER REBELLION

Action of S. African Leader Causes Government to Commandeer Men for Service in German Southwest Africa.

London, Dec. 31, 7.55 p.m.—A telegram received here today by Reuter's Telegram Company from Pretoria, the seat of government of the Union of South Africa, says:

"It is officially announced that the government intends to commandeer men for service in German Southwest Africa and in the Union of South Africa, as the situation cannot be adequately met by depending on the volunteer recruits."

"As a result of this action it is pointed out that Lieut. Col. Maritz, who escaped to German Southwest Africa with a few hundred rebels, is now attempting to return with German reinforcements, armed with field guns and rifles, to stir up the rebellion afresh, and prosecute it more effectively."

"The view of this danger of an invasion, the official communication says, it is necessary to employ a much larger force than at first was intended, in order to destroy the enemy rebel forces so they never again can menace the peace of South Africa."

KING GEORGE INSTITUTES NEW DECORATION

"The Military Cross" for Officers of Lower Grade Who Distinguish Themselves in War.

London, Dec. 31.—King George has instituted a new decoration which is called "The Military Cross." The decoration is of silver, and bears the Imperial Crown on each arm, and in the center the letters "G. R. I." (George, Rex Imperator.)

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It takes the precedence over all decorations and medals, with the exception of the Victoria Cross.

The Gazette contains the names of about one hundred persons on whom the new decoration has been conferred.

The Gazette also announces that Captain Grant and Commander Barr, both of the auxiliary cruiser Carmanlis, have been appointed Companions of the Bath for the services they rendered in the sinking of the German steamer Cap Trafalgar off the South American coast in September, and that Captain John Glossop, of the Australian cruiser Sydney, has been rewarded in a similar manner for the sinking by his ship of the German cruiser Emden. Prince Leopold of Battenberg has been appointed a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Distinguished Service Order and the Distinguished Service Cross has been conferred on a number of naval officers for gallantry.

QUEBEC GOVT GRANT OF \$40,000 FOR FAMILIES OF FRENCH SOLDIERS

Montreal, Dec. 31.—The announcement was made today that the provincial government has granted the sum of \$40,000 as a contribution from the Province of Quebec towards the National Committee for the aid of France organized to assist the dependents of French soldiers.

The Standard

Extends Sincere Wishes for a Prosperous and Happy New Year

NOMINATION DAY IN CARLETON COUNTY

Enthusiastic Meeting in Opera House — B. F. Smith and Hon. J. K. Flemming the speakers — Mr. Smith heavily scores Dark Lantern Brigades.

Special to The Standard. Woodstock, N. B., Dec. 31.—At the conclusion of the nomination proceedings, the government speakers held an enthusiastic meeting in the Opera House, Ex-Warden E. Morgan of Hartland, called the meeting to order and J. Fred Brown was chosen chairman. The speakers were B. Frank Smith, Hon. J. K. Flemming, Donald Munro, M. L. A., Harry Woods, M. L. A., M. L. Hayward, E. C. Morgan and Gladstone Perry. As the speakers brought forth their arguments showing what an honest and progressive government had done for the province there were rounds upon rounds of applause. Mr. Smith and Mr. Flemming in particular were given a most hearty reception.

Mr. Smith said that this was the fifth time in twelve years that he had appeared in an election contest and he was gratified at receiving such a hearty reception. At nomination day in the past the custom had been for joint debates. Two weeks ago, when the opposition decided to nominate a candidate, they had engaged the principal Opera House in town for their convention and also for today. They had never consulted him or any of the town committee as to a joint debate. In fact they refused to entertain the proposition, but a few minutes ago, on the street, C. L. Smith invited all who were present to their meeting as a joint debate had been arranged. This was an effort, no doubt, to augment their very small attendance.

Mr. Smith said he was never afraid to meet Carvell and so long as he had breath he never would be afraid, on the platform or in any other way. In fact he had challenged Carvell to meet him in the theatre on the eve of the election and he would pay all the expenses. As to a meeting with C. L. Smith he was not afraid as he was too well acquainted with that name. One feature of this campaign that had been overlooked by the voters was that in all the speeches of the opposition party there had been no criticism of the policy of the government, merely coarse abuse of Hon. Mr. Flemming. That gentleman was no candidate but the time would come shortly when Carvell would meet Flemming, after that election Carvell's requiem would be sung and he, the speaker, had reserved a lot of land at the Indian Reserve which he intended to present to Carvell where he could erect a cottage upon his retirement from political life.

Some twelve months ago Carvell made the statement that the United States embargo on potatoes would leave 1,000,000 barrels of potatoes on the hands of the farmers of this county. He produced clippings from Liberal newspapers sent to him by producer buyers containing Carvell's statement, stating that they would not buy potatoes at the market price because the potatoes could be bought cheaper at a later date. It was hardly possible for Carvell to do any more injury to the farmers than he had by making that statement. He showed how Carvell had endeavored to block the building of the Valley Railway and deprive the people of their right of transportation facilities. Carvell should be driven from political life for he was more dangerous to the farmers of this county than the poultry scab or the hoof and mouth disease.

He was assailed in opposition papers and insinuations thrown out about him, but the cowards dare not make a direct charge. He did not ask for their support on personal grounds, but on the agricultural, educational and general public services of the government. He felt the interests of the people would be better safeguarded by his election rather than by the election of R. L. Simms.

Ex-Premier Flemming, when into a great defense of the government in all its departments. He referred to the cowardly attacks upon him but said on a future occasion he would go into them fully. All he would say is that no man on earth can honestly say that he ever received a dollar improperly from any man.

Opposition papers said today that he was taking no interest in this election but that he was engaged loading lumber. He had the documents to show, and he would produce them sometime, that he might have been a rich man had he no regard for his own duty as a servant of the people instead of, as they said, loading and checking lumber at the railway depot, a poor man as he now was. He showed that the government, from 1908 to 1913, had collected over \$300,000 more for the people in stumpage than the former government had in the same time. How the former government got \$252,000 for a 20 years renewal of timber license, while the government got \$322,000 for a 15 years extension. He referred to the Valley Railway and the Fisheries Claims and closed by an earnest appeal for the support of Mr. Smith.

Donald Munro asked for cheers for B. F. Smith and J. K. Flemming, which were given with a will and the meeting closed with the National Anthem.

HON. MR. PERLEY AND HON. MR. SIFTON IN THE NEW YEAR'S HONOR LIST

Created Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George — No New Peers This Year.

London, Dec. 31.—The New Year's honor list contains no new peers. The Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and formerly Governor-General of Canada, is raised to the rank of Marquess, and Viscount St. Aldwyn (Michael Hicks-Beech) is elevated to an Earldom. Geo. Halsey Perley and Clifford Sifton, of Canada, were appointed Knights Commander of St. Michael and St. George. The Order of the Garter is conferred on the Earl of Derby, and the Earl of Chesterfield, while the Order of the Thistle is bestowed on Baron Lovat.

AMERICAN PROTEST SPECIFIC

Full Text of Protest From United States Made Public Yesterday—Complaint as Specific as Had Been Looked For—London Papers Say—Ambassador Page and Sir Edw. Grey in Conference.

London, Dec. 31.—The British foreign office, in agreement with the American government, tonight issued the text of the protest of the United States concerning delays to American commerce due to search of vessels by the British fleet. It was issued through the official press bureau.

The public has regarded the note as a diplomatic document of probably greater importance than any other incident of the war. The first comment on it in the newspaper offices tonight, however, was that the note was less specific in stating the American complaints than had been expected. It had been generally assumed that it contained details of various cases on which complaints were based.

Washington, Dec. 31.—By mutual agreement between the State Department and the British foreign office, the full text of the note sent by the United States to Great Britain, insisting on an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet, was made public tonight. The full text follows:

"The Secretary of State to the American Ambassador at London: Department of State, Washington, Dec. 26, 1914. The present condition of American foreign trade, resulting from the frequent seizures and detentions of American cargoes destined to neutral European ports, has become so serious as to require a candid statement of the views of this government, in order that the British government may be fully informed as to the attitude of the United States toward the policy which has been pursued by the British authorities during the present war.

Nothing has been done to improve the position of American commerce since the outbreak of hostilities, and the necessity of immediate action to prevent a further and more serious curtailment of American trade with the neutral countries of Europe. This government, relying confidently upon the high regard which Great Britain has so often exhibited in the past for the rights of other nations, confidently awaited amendment of a course of action which denied to neutral commerce the freedom to which it was entitled by the law of nations.

ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION FOR NEW ATTORNEY-GENERAL

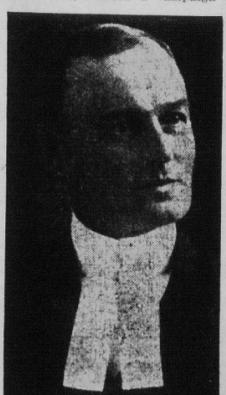
Nomination Day Yesterday Found No Opposition Candidate to Hon. J. B. M. Baxter—St. John County Solidly Behind Him—Brief Sketch of His Career.

Hon. John B. M. Baxter, K. C., M. P., Attorney-General of New Brunswick, was yesterday elected by acclamation to represent the County of Saint John in the local legislature. On December 17 last, Hon. Mr. Baxter was appointed Attorney-General and thereby vacated his seat. From the moment the writ was issued for the by-election, the friends of the new Attorney-General, both Liberal and Conservative, started a campaign in St. John.

At ten o'clock Sheriff Wilson opened his court to receive nominations at the court house. The sheriff was sworn in as returning officer by Mr. S. B. Bustin, Justice of the Peace for St. John county, and he in turn swore in Mr. Armstrong B. Clifford as clerk. Mr. Wilson then duly declared open and the writ for the election was read. At twenty minutes to twelve Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, accompanied by his agent, Mr. Winfield S. Allingham of Fairville, and by Mr. G. Earle Logan, appeared and Mr. Logan filed the nomination paper containing thirty-one signatures, representative of every parish in the county, some of whom were supporters of the opposition at the last election. Mr. Allingham paid the deposit of \$100 and at two o'clock nominations closed, no further candidates having come forward. The court remained in session until two o'clock, at which hour Attorney-General Baxter was formally declared elected.

CASUALTIES AMONG THE CANADIANS AT SALISBURY PLAIN

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The following casualties among members of the Canadian expeditionary force at Salisbury Plain are announced by the Militia Department: Death, December 27: No. 13,492—Private George Basil Ewens, Fifth Battalion, of pneumonia. Next of kin, J. M. Ewens, Bethany, Man. Seriously ill: No. 13,798—Private William Douglas Saint, Fifth Battalion, of cerebro spinal meningitis. Next of kin, William Saint, Tennyson Road, Cambridge, Eng. Seriously ill: No. 23,650—Private William Thomas Buchanan, Tenth Battalion, of cerebro spinal meningitis. Next of kin, Robert Buchanan, 132 Booth Avenue, Toronto.



HON. J. B. M. BAXTER, Attorney-General.