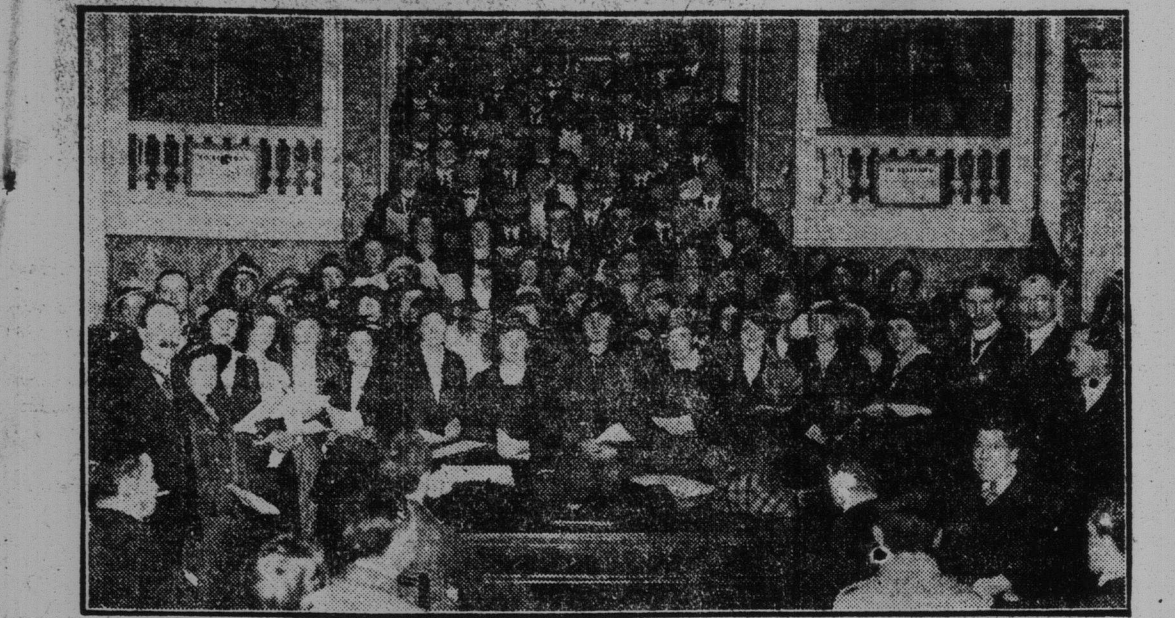


SINGING TO THE BLIND HEROES OF THE WAR



The photograph shows the Huddersfield Glee Madrigal Society singing to the blinded British warriors at St. Dunstan's Hotel, Regent Park, London, England, where their performance gave the greatest pleasure to these afflicted heroes. The singers afterwards proceeded to Westminster Abbey, where they sang Mendelssohn's "Elijah," and the Russian Cantata for the departed, "Give Rest, O Christ, to Thy Saints." There was a distinguished congregation including Mr. Lloyd George and Mrs. Asquith-S. N. S.

England Now Sees
Chance To Score

By a Careful Peace Answer,
German People May Be
Impressed

And Feet' Opinion Divided—
Delicacy of the Problem Confronted
by Americans Just Returned
From Berlin

London, Dec. 16.—To one newly arrived in London the reception of Germany's peace proposals had the appearance of instant and contemptuous rejection.

Either the surface indications were misleading or reconsideration is in process. At first I was able to find no one willing to take the Berlin proposals seriously, but yesterday and today I have run across a number of serious replies to Germany in quarters which are unimpaired by professional pacifism and in sympathy with the present British government.

There is undoubtedly a strong and increasing body of opinion favorable to a reply to Germany, carefully framed to drive a cleavage into German opinion. It is contended that the opportunity is now afforded for the first time to address directly the only German people, and to give aid and comfort to the already large element that wants peace. The reply should, therefore, avoid anything that would put the German people up against the wall and compel a resolidification for prosecuting the war.

In the circles holding these views, Germany's reasons for making the proposals are interpreted as follows: First, a sincere desire for peace on self-respecting terms among the German people; second, a belief that peace proposals would have a good effect in Germany and lead to internal dissensions; third, a belief that the submission of the proposals would have a good effect in Germany and lead to internal dissensions; third, a belief that the submission of the proposals would have a good effect in Germany and lead to internal dissensions.

Advocates of a respectful and polite reply to the peace overtures see wisdom in Germany's action and think that it presents the most delicate situation that allied diplomacy has had to face since the war began.

I have met some Americans, recently returned from Germany, whose opinions, formed on the best of their own knowledge, confirm the desirability of a peace effort now.

These Americans are pro-Ally in sympathy. They say that there is no exhaustion in Germany. The food shortage has so far done more good than harm. German military opinion, they say, doesn't take the Somme drive at the valuation placed on it in England. The Germans have been moving men and material from the Somme line to Roumania, and say that they are able to figure almost to a man the force necessary to hold the line.

Hindenburg and Ludendorff do not attach large importance to the western front. Ludendorff, and not Hindenburg, is regarded as the brain of the high command. Hindenburg has been erected as a popular idol to fire enthusiasm and attract and cement public opinion.

The German's reckon psychological forces of this kind as analytically and mathematically, as an engineer would build a bridge. Through the newspapers and other agencies under the control of the German government an entirely mythical Hindenburg has been created.

The very mention of his name thrills Germany from the North Sea to the Danube, and so perfectly is the work done that the people in the allied and neutral countries are fooled, too.

These same Americans believe that the reply to the German peace proposals can be so framed as to split the German people, even if not to lead to direct peace. They say that if the Allies wait a year, conditions will be no more favorable than now for the Allies, and meanwhile the cost in men and money will be terrific.

If the war could be ended on the basis of the status quo ante bellum with Germany paying Belgium and France an indemnity, German militarism would disintegrate because Germany would be at an economic disadvantage, requiring many years to overcome.

It would never again be possible for her to elaborate a secret premeditated surprise and overwhelm Europe, and England would retain her sea supremacy as a bulwark against Germanic aggressions.

Monaghan-Fader.

A pretty wedding was solemnized in Trinity church, at 6 o'clock yesterday morning, when Miss Florence Fader, of Halifax, became the bride of C. V. Monaghan, secretary of Moir's Ltd., Halifax. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Ralph Sherman in the presence of immediate relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Monaghan left on the Boston express last evening on a wedding trip to United States cities and will take up their future residence in Halifax. The groom is the son of the late Patrick Monaghan, of Halifax, and the bride is a sister of Mrs. P. J. Smith, 264 King Street East.

NEW BILL AT GEM
VERY ENTERTAINING

Vaudeville Acts Excellent And
Pictures Are Good

The Gem last night presented an excellent new programme of vaudeville and pictures and it was very much enjoyed. The Musical Fredericks provided a quarter of an hour of delightful entertainment. They are man and woman, he in military costume, she attractively dressed. They play a duet well on a musical contrivance of their own and also play together well on saxophones. They also have a good snare drum act and introduce well-placed comedy. Their offering was well received and applause was hearty and generous. The act is pleasing and acceptable. Dacey and Chase, two men, gave us something new. There is good comedy in their act, while the interchange of pleasantries goes on, one of them is making on canvas a pretty picture by clever use of crayon and sand. There is also a good musical feature in the act and the close is a sure-fire laugh-raising burlesque boxing exhibition that captured all and sent everyone away in good humor.

In motion pictures The Yellow Menace, Chapter 14, was shown. It is the Interrupted Nuptials. Honey Keady, Harry is about to marry Naja when Ali Singh's headquarters are attacked. Once more, however, the arch-plotter made good his escape. The episode is full of interest and excitement. An amusing L. K. comedy, featuring Billy Ritchie, was shown last night as "Honor Thy Country" did not arrive. It is here for tonight, however. It is a strong three-act picture with an irresistible patriotic appeal and a good love story. A real torpedo boat destroyer is used in the action. This programme will be given tonight. Complete change on Saturday afternoon.

RAILWAY COST LESS
THAN MONEY PROVIDED

In the hearing of the claim of A. R. Gould and his associates against the province, before Chief Justice McKeown as arbitrator, evidence was given yesterday by Ross Thompson, managing director of the St. John & Quebec Railway Company during the period of construction.

Mr. Thompson in his evidence yesterday afternoon gave the history of the formation of the Saint John & Quebec Railway Company. He told how a construction company was formed to do the work and how contracts had been let out to subsidiary companies.

"We endeavored to carry out the contract to the best of our ability," testified Mr. Thompson. "If we had received the money due us the government we could have carried out the work. We did not default on the contract. An act of parliament which provided for the filing of all claims with the government was the origin of the trouble. Under this act the main contractors filed claims. The sub-contractors also filed claims against the contractors and the sub-sub contractors against the sub-contractors and so on. This method of filing the claims made it appear that there was over double the amount due than really existed. The books of the company showed that there was only about \$200,000 due. The company held that this amount was correct but the government did not take to this view, feeling that under the act the creditors were to be protected. The government held back the money and consequently we could not go on. Ultimately an adjustment was made and the accounts on our books were vindicated. Mr. Duniop acted as arbitrator being appointed by the government."

Mr. Thompson cited figures to show that the road was finally built for less than the net amount available for building the road. Down to February 29, 1916, the cost of the road amounted to \$4,469,927.31. This was expended on the following sections as follows: Cost of construction from Gagetown to Fredericton, \$1,148,210.45; from Fredericton to Woodstock, \$2,406,998.85; from Woodstock to Centreville, \$904,218.01.

The net funds available for building the Gagetown-Centreville section were as follows: First mortgage bonds, \$2,099,221.01; second mortgage bonds, \$2,099,221.01; Dominion subsidy at \$5,400 per mile, \$769,920. These figures made a total of \$4,968,362.02, and left a balance of \$968,362.02 over the amount expended. Mr. Thompson was still on the stand when the hearing was adjourned until 10.30 this morning.

The new draft had just arrived in France and the men were exchanging notes with the old hands. "Do they feed you well out here?" asked one of the raw hands. "O, not at all bad," replied the campaigner, "not at all bad! Good breakfast and good dinner, and always pudding after dinner."

"Pudding, eh? What kind of pudding today?"

"O, the usual kind—windmill pudding."

"Windmill. What kind of pudding is that?"

"Why, if it goes round you get some."

Anti-Calumny
French League

To Combat Evil of Slander
Among the Public

Many Eminent Men Join
Hoped League Will Bring Back
to Public Life Men Whom Fear
of Scandal-mongers Kept Out

Paris, Dec. 20.—Jean Pinot, editor of La Revue, has founded a league against calumny. As the title denotes, the new league is to combat the evil of slander among the public and in the press which, M. Pinot points out, is a serious danger to the nation.

So serious has become the problem of American youths slipping away into Canada to join the over-seas regiments that the American State Department at Washington, has been forced recently to create a new division to care for the hundreds of communications which pour in, asking officials of this government to obtain the release of American youths from foreign regiments.

In many cases, these boys have joined in Canada by the simple expedient of falsifying their ages. Today, these same boys can be found in the trenches along the front, and in the hands of the British, and abroad British vessels are patrolling the high seas.

Because of the willingness of the British Government and its allies to accept boys who joined by fraudulent means, the State Department has found little cause for complaint. The boys can be located alive, but there are many cases, department officials say, where the names of American youths are being used by parents in America, have been found in the lists of those killed in action. In many instances not even the body can be recovered.

RECENT DEATHS

The death took place at Montreal yesterday of Edmund D. Outram, aged forty-two, of the late D. Outram of this city. He leaves his wife and family.

John F. McCarthy, a well known druggist of Bathurst, was found dead in his bed on Tuesday. Heart trouble was the cause of his death. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. McCarthy, now of Moncton, were born in North End, Portland street, and the Misses Doherty of Douglas avenue, are cousins.

Mrs. Edith May McCashin, was found away on Monday at Prince William station at the age of thirty years. She is survived by three brothers and three sisters.

Mrs. Bridget McCashin died on Monday at her home, Newmarket. She was 62 years old and was the widow of John McCashin. Three daughters survive. They are Mrs. Thomas Gallagher and Mrs. Sarah McCashin at home.

Miss May Larsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Larsen, of Moncton, died Sunday in her seventeenth year. Besides the parents, five brothers and one sister survive. The brothers are Roy of Hillsboro, William of A. J. Carl of Beverly, Mass., Gordon of Goodridge, Me. and Archie at home. The sister is Mrs. Annie Oram and Mrs. Thomas Trites of Moncton and Miss Alice Larsen at home.

Frederick Gleason: Friends in this city learned with regret of the death of Harry Andrews, for the last year or so head waiter at the Barker House in this city, who passed away suddenly in St. John. Mr. Andrews is survived by one son, Harry C., his mother and three sisters. Mrs. H. P. Ham, Mrs. George Scott and Mrs. A. E. Cameron, all of St. John. He left here about a week ago for his home in St. John and had intended to go to Boston on a short vacation trip.

Samuel Reynolds of Lincoln, died at his home there on Monday at the age of 51 years. He is survived by his mother, three daughters and four sons, also by one sister, Mrs. Gilbert Coy of Burin, Corner, and two brothers, Bliss and Chesley of Gagetown.

The death of William McTavish occurred Sunday at the home of his brother, William McTavish, at Silliker. He was 28 years of age. He leaves his wife, formerly Miss Janet Sheppard of Whiteville, and two children—Thelma and Burton; also one brother, William, Russell of South Brewer, Me., and Mrs. Alexander MacDonald of Black River in this county.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED
Mrs. Elmina Steeves of Bridgetide, Albert county, announces the engagement of her daughter, Josephine Elmina Steeves, to Frank V. Muncey of Cambridge, England, the marriage to take place in January.

Quick Way
to End Coughs, Colds
and Croup

An Excellent, Inexpensive Home-Made Remedy that is Prompt and Sure.

If you have a severe cough or chest cold accompanied with soreness, throat tickle, hoarseness, or difficult breathing, or if your child wakes up during the night with croup and you want quick help, just try this pleasant tasting home-made cough remedy. Any drug-gist can supply you with 2½ ounces of Pinex (50 cents worth). Pour this into a 16-oz. bottle and fill the bottle with plain granulated sugar syrup. Thus prepared, you have 16 ounces of really remarkable cough remedy—one that can be depended upon to give quick and lasting relief at all times.

You can take this hold of a cough in a way that means business. It relieves the phlegm, stops throat tickle and soothes and heals the irritated membranes that line the throat and bronchial tubes with promptness, ease and certainty that it is really astonishing. To avoid disappointment, ask for 2½ ounces of Pinex in plain directions to obtain the absolute satisfaction of money promptly refunded, if this preparation. The Pinex Co., Toronto, Ont.

persons who have had most to suffer from these calumnies have today conquered our admiration by the innumerable services they have rendered the country."

M. Pinot has intimated that the new league will have legal backing to carry out its work.

2,000 AMERICANS
HAVE DIED IN WAR

Lured by the spirit of adventure, more than 2,000 Americans have died in battle, fighting in armies of the British Empire.

Somewhere in the United States thousands of anxious mothers and fathers are awaiting the return of those who have never returned, and somewhere in France there are Americans fighting in the khaki of Britain who will never return to their native land.

So serious has become the problem of American youths slipping away into Canada to join the over-seas regiments that the American State Department at Washington, has been forced recently to create a new division to care for the hundreds of communications which pour in, asking officials of this government to obtain the release of American youths from foreign regiments.

In many cases, these boys have joined in Canada by the simple expedient of falsifying their ages. Today, these same boys can be found in the trenches along the front, and in the hands of the British, and abroad British vessels are patrolling the high seas.

Because of the willingness of the British Government and its allies to accept boys who joined by fraudulent means, the State Department has found little cause for complaint. The boys can be located alive, but there are many cases, department officials say, where the names of American youths are being used by parents in America, have been found in the lists of those killed in action. In many instances not even the body can be recovered.

IT MEANS A BIG BILL
FOR GERMANY TO PAY

New York, Dec. 20.—A special cable to the New York Sun says:

The exact sum Premier Lloyd George's claim for reparation was the subject of eager discussion today in the lobby of the commons.

Reparation should include, in the opinion of Lord Sheffield:

"The complete evacuation of Belgium, with ample financial compensation to that country for outrages committed; the restoration of destroyed buildings and industrial equipment; repayment in full, with interest, of the loans, both in money and materials, taken from it; compensation to those forcibly torn from their homes and sent to the labor camps; German tankmasters, often in connection with military work, and compensation for those put to death by the lawless German soldiers."

"The same should apply to Serbia, France and Poland."

"For us, compensation for the open towns were bombed by German ships; compensation for all injuries and property in air raids upon civilians in open towns and villages; compensation for merchant ships sunk by cruisers, submarines and mines; compensation for lives sacrificed, in all such cases; punishment if necessary capital punishment of those of authority who have ordered savage acts of repression and cruelty."

Then the German ambassador said that this indicates the kind of reparation we expect for the past," continued Lord Sheffield, "we will indicate the securities we demand for the future."

"As treaty obligations are treated by Germany as scraps of paper, we should demand, in addition to negotiations, the withdrawal of Germany's forces and those of her allies from all territory outside the limits of their former dominions."

"When the Germans assent and comply with these terms we can begin to discuss any further agreement leading to peace, but not till then."

PREPARING TO SEND
TRACKAGE TO FRANCE

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—A conference of railway men was held in the office of Sir Henry Drayton, head of the railway commission, today to consider the question of providing the railway trackage required of Canada by the imperial government for use behind the lines in France.

There were present among others, Graham A. Bell, financial controller of the department of railways; Gordon Grant, chief engineer of the I. C. R.; Sir Donald Mann, of the Canadian Northern; W. B. Lanigan, E. W. Beatty and W. R. McInnes, of the C. P. R., and Frank Watson, of the G. T. R.

The chairman explained the need of the situation and suggested ways and means for meeting the demand. He has called upon the railways to show why certain sections of railway should not come up and all available information is being prepared on the subject.

Messrs. Smith and Acworth, the other members of the railway investigating board, will be in Ottawa early next week, and further consideration by the commission and the railway board will be instituted. Hon. Frank J. McChesney, who is charged with passing of the recommendations of the board, will be in Ottawa at the end of the present week.

Sir Donald Mann, on behalf of the C. N. R., has already tendered 200 miles of track from portions of their line where it will be possible to secure running rights over other roads.

The Canadian Copper Company, of Copper Cliff, a subsidiary company to the International Nickel Company of New York, has also tendered considerable trackage, including track material which they have on hand, and have wired that on receipt of instructions they will at once load it and move it forward to the seaboard.

Representatives of a number of the smaller railways of Canada have telegraphed offering rails and certain equipment and as fast as their offers are received inspectors are sent out to investigate. Offers of material are also coming forward from directors and contractors who happen to have material and equipment on hand.

\$100 REWARD, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Catarrh being greatly influenced by constitutional conditions requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts through the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The propolis have much to do with the curative powers of Hall's Catarrh Cure that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address: F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all druggists, 75c.

THE HALIFAX TERMINALS

HALIFAX Chronicle.—What happened at the ocean terminals during Saturday morning's storm, when tugs were sunk, the waves battered and portions of the wall torn away, vindicates the warnings of Captain John Flemming and other experienced captains at the time when the terminal scheme was first projected. There is great reason to fear that we are only at the beginning of troubles.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Common Council of the City of Saint John a committee of the said Council for conducting the sale of the Fisheries for the ensuing year, pursuant to law, hereby give notice that certain Fishery Lots along the East side of the Bay, River and Harbor, heretofore enjoyed and possessed by the inhabitants on the East side of the Harbor, with those in and surrounding Navy Island, and also certain Fishery Lots on the Western side of the Harbor, will be sold at Public Auction on TUESDAY, the SECOND DAY OF JANUARY NEXT, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Court House, in the City of Saint John, for the fishing season of the ensuing year, to end on the 15th day of December, 1917.

Dated the 15th day of December, 1916.
JAMES V. RUSSELL,
ROBERT T. HAYES,
HARRY R. McLELLAN,
RUPERT W. WILMORE,
G. FRED FISHER.

12-19-22-26-28-2

Good Evening People,
How Do You Do?



Merry Christmas

Do Your
Christmas
Shopping at
WILCOX'S
The Store for
Useful Gifts

Where you can surely get something for the whole family. Our Christmas Gifts are all useful ones, something that is acceptable at any time.

Useful Christmas Gifts
For Men and Boys

- Men's Sweaters from 98c. to \$6.50.
- Boys' Sweaters from 59c. to \$3.50.
- Men's Caps from 50c. to \$1.50.
- Men's Hats from \$1.50 to \$2.50.
- Men's Silk Hose from 25c. to 75c.
- Men's Wool Hose from 25c. to 75c.
- Men's Shaving Sets.
- Men's Dressing Sets.
- Men's Travelling Sets.
- Men's Suit Cases.
- Men's Crib Bags.
- Men's Umbrellas from \$1.00 to \$6.50.
- Men's Neckwear from 25c. to \$1.00.
- Men's Kid Gloves from \$1.00 to \$1.75.
- Men's Fur Lined Gloves at all prices.
- Men's Mocha Gloves from \$1.00 to \$1.75.
- Men's Underwear from 75c. to \$2.50.
- Men's Braces from 25c. to 75c.
- Men's Handkerchiefs from 5c. to 75c.
- Men's Fur Shirts from 75c. to \$1.75.
- Men's Suits from \$8.50 to \$24.00, at special cut prices for Christmas month.
- Boys' Suits, from \$2.75 to \$12.00, at special prices.
- Boys' Overcoats from \$3.75 to \$15.00.
- Men's Overcoats from \$10.00 to \$28.00, at special cut prices.
- Men's Raincoats from \$5.00 to \$18.00.
- Boys' Raincoats from \$3.75 to \$6.50.

Something to Please
The Ladies

- Ladies' Sweaters from 98c. to \$8.50.
- Girls' Sweaters from 75c. to \$3.00.
- Ladies' Wool Gloves from 50c. to 75c.
- Ladies' Silk Hose from 35c. to \$1.50.
- Ladies' Silk Shirts from \$1.50 to \$6.50.
- Ladies' Shirts from \$1.00 to \$2.50.
- Ladies' Velle Shirts from \$1.50 to \$3.50.
- Ladies' Silk Underskirts from \$3.00 to \$5.50.
- Ladies' Crepe de Chine Waists from \$2.50 to \$5.00.
- Ladies' Whitewear of all kinds put up in Christmas boxes.
- Ladies' Silk Collars from 35c. to \$1.50.
- Ladies' Silk and Linen Handkerchiefs all put up in Christmas boxes.
- Ladies' Suit Cases.
- Ladies' Travelling Sets.
- Ladies' Brush and Comb Sets put up in boxes.
- Ladies' Jewel Cases.
- Ladies' Umbrellas from 75c. to \$6.50.
- Ladies' Silk Dresses from \$8.50 to \$15.50.
- Ladies' Serge Dresses from \$5.50 to \$9.50.
- Ladies' Suits from \$12.98 to \$40.00, at special cut prices for Christmas week.
- Ladies' Coats from \$8.50 to \$45.00, at special cut prices.
- Girls' Coats from \$2.98 to \$12.00.
- Ladies' Cloth Skirts from \$2.49 to \$6.50.
- Ladies' House Dresses from \$1.00 to \$2.50.
- Ladies' Tea Aprons from 25c. to 75c.
- Ladies' Pull-Over Aprons from 50c. to \$1.00.
- Girls' Baby Lamb Coats from \$3.75 to \$6.00.
- Ladies' Raincoats from \$5.00 to \$18.75.
- Girls' Raincoats from \$3.50 to \$7.50.

And a word of Advice from Santa Claus to shop at

WILCOX'S
Charlotte St., Cor. Union