

# CHRISTMAS DAY FINDS OPPOSITE ARMIES GRIPPED IN FIERCE COMBAT IN EAST AND WEST

## NO INDICATION OF ANY MARKED ADVANTAGE IN EAST, BERLIN ADMITS

Berlin, Dec. 24 (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Among the items given out for publication today by the German official press bureau were the following: "While there is general confidence that the Germans and their ally are making progress along the extended battle line in the east, there is no indication, either in the German or the Austrian official reports, that any marked advantage had been won. Indeed, it is noticeable that Vienna uses the adjective 'favorable' in referring to the battles in the Carpathians but contents itself with saying that the severe battles along the lower Danube river and on the Kroano-Luchow line continue. "Strikingly frank and interesting is the official Vienna report concerning the Austrian withdrawal from Serbia, which was due to the terrible conditions of the country and the weather, and also to the fact that the Serbians had been reinforced. The Austrians lost considerably in the retreat, but the spirit of their army is unshakable. The report also brings the first news that Field Marshal Oskar Potiorek has been relieved of command of the Austrian army on account of his health. "The situation in the west has not materially changed, despite the desperate efforts of the allies."

## THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AMONG OUR SOLDIER BOYS

Dinner provided by members of Women's Canadian Club to our gallant defenders—Happy time among men for Overseas service.

As a result of the efforts of the members of the Women's Canadian Club the soldiers here, who were not able to go home to spend Christmas were provided with Christmas cheer. Roast turkey, cranberry sauce and all the other necessities that go to make the Christmas dinner perfect were provided. The spread was provided in the big army and about four hundred soldiers, from the 26th Battalion, Dragoons and Army Service Corps besides the men on Partridge Island, were handsomely provided for and all were loud in their praise of the adequacy of the arrangements. "Everything could be classed under the name of Christmas cheer was provided and after the soldiers had all been provided for it was found that enough remained to provide a New Year feast too. The non-commissioned officers arranged the tables and Mrs. H. A. Powell, Mrs. J. H. Frink and Mrs. E. A. Smith saw that everything was done in order. Mrs. G. A. Kubring, president of the Women's Canadian Club, was unable to be present. The Misses Travers were present and saw that all were provided with smoking materials. The tables were nicely fitted up and table linen was provided by the women. Green and red trimmings were in evidence and the banquet hall had a real Christmas look. There were candies, bon bons, fruit preserves, and other things besides turkey, cigars and cigarettes were also provided. The committee of the Women's Canadian Club were in evidence at all points and they superintended the arrangement of the dinner from the cooking to the eating. They visited the Dragoons in the exhibition building and all the dining rooms. Through the courtesy of Hon. George J. and Mrs. Clarke each man was provided with two bottles of ginger ale, E. L. Goodwin, Willet Co., T. H. Estabrooks and others supplied the fruits. After the dinner the men assembled in ranks and cheered for the members of the Women's Canadian Club, and

## A MILITARY CHRISTMAS IN ENGLAND

Men in Khaki and Blue Attract Chief Attention Among Holiday Crowds.

## CANADIANS IN LONDON FOR HOLIDAY.

Christmas Cheer Provided for Belgian Refugees—German War Prisoners Also Remembered.

London, Dec. 25.—Christmas of 1914 will long be remembered in Great Britain as a military Christmas. Everywhere throughout the island men in khaki and in blue were the object of attention and admiration. There was a great decrease in the customary railway crowds of civilians visiting their homes for family reunion, but almost the usual number of trains was running. The cars were filled with soldiers and sailors taking a brief leave to visit their families, and all were travelling on free passes. Many thousands of volunteers from the training camps, and a considerable contingent from the continent and the fleet, had two or three days for a holiday at their homes, and the whole country seemed to swarm with uniforms. London particularly was full of soldiers, conspicuous among them were several thousand Canadians from Salisbury Plain. Christmas in London is Sabbath-like, because all the theatres closed, and all the hotels and public houses keep Sunday hours. The few hours of daylight, however, were almost bright, which is a rare phenomenon in an English winter, and the soldiers and sailors appeared to find amusement in tramping the streets and the parks, from the fashionable West End to the suburbs. Family parties taking an afternoon stroll generally had their men in khaki or blue as the central object, escorted by admiring relatives. Dinner in the big hotels was notable for the presence of the military and the unusual feature was the presence of men in non-commissioned uniforms, even privates mingling with officers. The Belgian Refugees Remembered. All railways in Great Britain were closed down with presents. Princess Mary's fund for Xmas gifts amounted to nearly £200,000, while there were numerous funds for tobacco, puddings and other luxuries, raised by newspapers and societies. Even the German military prisoners and civilians in the concentration camps had Christmas trees and gifts from home and from wealthy Germans in England. The German Young Men's Christian Association and the English Quakers devoted special care to the prisoners. Hundreds of British and Belgian wounded in the hospitals were the recipients of many attentions. Three thousand Belgian refugees in the Earl's Court, Exhibition buildings, were given Christmas dinners, and at night a huge Christmas tree was presented to them by Lord Salisbury. Twenty-five hundred of them in Alexandra Palace had a similar celebration. Tomorrow, known in England as Boxing Day, sees the beginning of pantomimes at several large theatres. Some of the playhouses are giving free matinees for soldiers and sailors. A special committee, formed to watch conditions of distress in London, has reported that there are less pauperism and unemployment in the city than on any Christmas in thirty years. This is due to the large enlistment in the army, many of the workers making room for the unemployed. Nevertheless, the general atmosphere was one of sadness, rather than that of hilarity. Economy was the watchword of the day. Christmas trees come from Germany, and mistletoe comes from France, hence there was a notable scarcity of both. Christmas turkeys had slightly increased in price, but fruit was cheaper than usual, owing to the smaller continental demand. King George and Queen Mary sent messages to the army and to the fleet, and they sent Christmas cards bearing their portraits to every soldier and sailor. Attendance at the churches was notably large. Dean Inge, at St.

## PRINCESS "PAT'S" REGIMENT OFF TO FRONT, SCOTTISH REGIMENT NEXT TO START

The Princess Patricia's Have Honor of Being First of Canadians to Go to Firing Line—Whole Contingent Nearly Fit and May Start for Front in Few Weeks.

London, Dec. 24.—The "Princess Patricia's," a part of the Canadian contingent, has left for the front. The Scottish regiments of Canada's army will shortly follow the Princess Patricia's to the fighting line in France and Belgium. After a course of training in Canada and on Salisbury Plain, the killed soldiers from the Dominion are considered fit to take their places with the seasoned troops of Great Britain. The rest of the thirty thousand men who came across the Atlantic ocean to fight the battles of the Empire are reaching the concluding stages of their training, and it is expected that the whole contingent will be ready to move across the English Channel in a few days. The Princess Patricia's Regiment because it is made up largely of men who have seen active service and who needed but a few weeks to renew their acquaintances with the game that they are expected to play in the fighting lines.

## FRENCH SQUADRON ATTACKED BY GERMAN SUBMARINES IN THE ATRRNTO; TWO BATTLESHIPS OTTRANTO

Amsterdam, Holland, Dec. 24, via London.—An official telegram received here today from Vienna says: "The French submarine Curie was fired upon by our coast batteries without having been able to deliver any attack. "Our submarine No. 12, attacked on December 21, a French squadron composed of sixteen ships in the Otranto channel. The submarine twice successfully torpedoed two battleships of the Courbet type but the consequent confusion among the hostile squadron, rendered it impossible for the submarine to establish with certainty the fate of the torpedoed ships."

## GOV.-GENERAL'S MESSAGE TO BOY SCOUTS

Sends Christmas Greetings on Behalf of Canadian Organization to the Scouts in Great Britain.

Special to The Standard Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 25.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught in his capacity as chief scout of the Royal Scouts' Association for Canada sent the following cable message of Christmas greetings to General Sir Robert Baden Powell and to the British boy scouts of whom it is said that some fifty thousand are now engaged in the performance of various public services connected with the war. "In the name of the Canadian boy scouts I send you hearty Christmas greetings and affectionate regards to the boy scouts of the Motherland and the most worthy part they are taking on behalf of King and Empire." Signed, ARTHUR.

Mrs. Eunice M. Campbell, at her home on Hanover street last Thursday besides her husband and two daughters, Mrs. William Chamberlain and Mrs. Guy D. Olive; also their son, William. The funeral takes place today at 4 o'clock. Paul's, spoke of the Anglo-American peace centenary. Referring to the Canadian-American boundary he said: "For a hundred years America and Canada have been at peace. A true peace—not watching an anarizing at each other, like two ill-bred dogs. That is something to thank God for on Christmas Day. There are millions in Europe who look to America as a land of hope, and I think they are justified in doing so. One cannot spend a week in America without feeling that hope and freedom give buoyancy to life there, such as we rarely see at home." The Dean thought, his American cousin failed to achieve a type of Christianity that Christ would approve. "Competitive industrialism," he said, "has not fulfilled this promise. The plea that business is business may cover almost as much cruelty and injustice as may the maxim that 'all is fair in war.'"

## PREPARE AGAINST RAID ON HARWICH

Instructions Issued to Civilians How to Act in Event of German Attack.

Harwich, via London, Dec. 25.—A possible German attack on Harwich is indicated by the following notice issued today by the Mayor of that English seaport: "Although an attack by the enemy on Harwich is not anticipated at the present time, and there is no special reason for anxiety amongst non-combatants, it is considered desirable to notify the civilian population that in the unexpected event of hostile operations the members of the local emergency committee and special constables will direct every one as to the course to be pursued. All members of the civilian population are hereby required to act strictly in accordance with such directions." All visitors arriving at Harwich will be required to register.

## P. E. I. MAN AND WIFE KILLED BY TRAIN

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Dec. 25.—Tonight an elderly couple, John McKenzie and his wife of Cranville, were killed by the train as they were driving across the track. Between Bradshaw and Emerald, the woman was killed outright, the man lingered for a few hours and died in a hospital at Summerside where he was rushed by special train.

## AT MUNICIPAL HOME

Christmas dinner was served to the inmates of the Municipal Home yesterday. There were several visitors from town and an enjoyable time was spent. This afternoon the Christmas tree will be ready and gifts will be distributed. The home will be open to visitors this afternoon from two to five o'clock.

## DIED.

POOLE.—At Westmorland Road, on December 23, Samuel Joseph W. Poole, aged seventy-two years, leaving his wife, three sons and three daughters to mourn.

CAMPBELL.—At her late residence, 8 Hanover street, this city, on Dec. 24, Mrs. Eunice M. Campbell, leaving a husband, one son and two daughters to mourn their sad loss. Funeral will take place from her late residence this afternoon at four o'clock.

## OPERA HOUSE TODAY

Matinee and Night Thompson's Musical Comedy Company "MRS. TEMPLE'S TELEGRAM" ALL NEXT WEEK—"McKenna's Flirtation" SPECIAL MATINEE NEW YEARS DAY

## BERLIN ADMITS RUSSIAN GAINS ARE POSSIBLE

Vienna Has no Successes in Galicia to Report, German Official Press Bureau Says.

Berlin, Dec. 25 (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Among the items given out today by the official press bureau are the following: "Despite the evident stubborn nature of the fighting along the whole western front, Major Morath, military correspondent of the Tagblatt, says he is inclined to believe that the Russian resistance is no new offensive, but is made up merely of rear post combats designed to cover the retirement of the main armies for re-organization back of the middle Vistula. This, he thinks is particularly the case in Southern Poland and Galicia, where the nature of the ground behind the Russians is such that time must be gained to permit them to reach the position set for re-organization, even at the risk that the rear post troops may not be able to come back. "Despite all this, says Major Morath, partial successes by the Russians here and there are possible. He doubts whether the Russians have any available fresh troops back of their line. "An Austrian report indicates that the Carpathians are being cleared gradually of the enemy, but that the latter are stubbornly holding their own in Galicia, where Vienna has no successes to report. "No change of any importance is reported from the West." Montreal, Dec. 25.—Fire destroyed the West End Methodist church, north west corner of Canning and Coursoi streets, about 3 o'clock this morning. The loss is estimated at about \$45,000.

## IMPERIAL THEATRE

For the Belgian and Red Cross Funds, New Year's Eve Theatricals

## "OURS"

PATRIOTIC AND INSPIRING. Another Good Entertainment for our Great and Worthy Cause. TICKETS: Downstairs and 3 Rows Balcony 50c. Balance of Balcony 35c. Top Balcony 25c. Box Chairs, 75c. SEAT PLAN ON VIEW NOW At Imperial Stores.

## VALLEY RY. TRAIN FROM FREDERICTON TO WOODSTOCK AND CENTREVILLE DAILY

As Result of Hon. Mr. Hazen's Active Interest Change in Time Table Has Been Made.

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 25.—As a result of the interest taken by Hon. J. D. Hazen, Mr. F. P. Gatlusius stated that the time of departure of the St. John Valley Railway daily train from Fredericton for Woodstock and Centreville when the I. C. R. undertakes operation the first of the New Year will be 4:30 p. m. When in Fredericton recently Mr. Gatlusius announced that the I. C. R. operation of the Valley Railway would be marked by faster running time, and this will result in the train from Centreville and Woodstock, now due at 11 o'clock noon, arriving here somewhat earlier than at present. It is therefore evident that the people along the St. John Valley Railway will be able to come to Fredericton on the I. C. R. train, have five hours or more to carry on what business they may have, and be able to return home the same day. Not only will this new schedule, therefore, prove a matter of great convenience for the people along the line, but it will also result in a marked boom in trade for Fredericton business houses. The unusually heavy traffic that has been carried on the Valley Railway this week has already shown some of the possibilities of the business which can be developed, at

## POPE SPENDS XMAS WORKING FOR EXCHANGE OF WAR PRISONERS

Received Many Christmas Messages—Spends Part of Day With Relatives.

Rome, Dec. 25.—Pope Benedict devoted the greater part of Christmas to developing his plans for the exchange of wounded prisoners, and religious service he spent some time with relatives. He expressed great satisfaction over the many messages he has received, especially from America, giving strong adherence to his efforts to lessen the cruelties of the war, and hasten peace.

## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FARMERS AND FARMERS' SONS

Six Weeks' Course in Agriculture At Woodstock Agricultural School, January 5th to February 12th, 1915.

A Comfortable, Well-Equipped School Building. A Thoroughly Practical, Up-to-date Course. Send for circular with regard to this and other agricultural courses to the DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS, WOODSTOCK, N. B. ALL COURSES FREE. NO AGE LIMIT. NEW BRUNSWICK DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. HON. J. A. MURRAY, Minister.

Advertisement for a six-week course in agriculture at Woodstock Agricultural School, starting January 5th and ending February 12th, 1915. The course is held in a comfortable, well-equipped school building and is a thoroughly practical, up-to-date course. It covers various agricultural topics and is suitable for both farmers and their sons. The course is free of charge, and there is no age limit. For more information, a circular should be sent to the Director of Agricultural Schools, Woodstock, N.B.

Advertisement for the Imperial Theatre's "Merry Holiday Bills!" featuring Thompson's Musical Comedy Company. The main attraction is "Mrs. Temple's Telegram" and "McKenna's Flirtation." The theatre is also advertising the opening of C. P. R. Docks, St. John, and the start of "Hazards of Helen." Tickets are available at Imperial Stores.

GREAT... THE KR... An aeronaut of the... bombs on the Krupp... the great plant at which... tured the famous German... well as smaller arms, an... according to a despatch... Hague. This message qu... from Berlin to the effect... were dropped on the bui... the manufacture of can... It is said that the arm... injured, and that the ext... age has not been ascerta... The world famous... Krupp firm, at Essen on... founded in 1811-1812... Krupp, who started the... duction of English cas... other products resulti... few months later—on... the merchant's son, Al... and he it was who w... 'make' the firm, to r... father's early death, fr... and almost from fallu... position it holds.