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Heavy Vote Is Coming Out

Good Weather For The Election In St. John

John

INCIDENTS AT THE POLLS

Large Number Cast Ballots Early in Quebec—Montreal Also Reports Busy Early Hours—Premier Only Minister To Receive Returns In Capital

It is doubtful if ever in the history of St. John a keener interest was manifested in an election than is evident today. At every polling booth throughout the city men are clustered around waiting for a chance to exercise their franchise. Up to noon a large number of men and many women had voted. That the women throughout the city have been thoroughly canvassed was evident from the large numbers who turned out to register their views by means of the ballot.

There was no excitement about some booths, although here and there men were protesting against the kind of ballot being used. They contended that it was not a secret vote and that the chairman of the booth was able to see how every man cast his ballot, that when the chairman was tearing off the stub on the end of the ballot the lap often was raised high enough to allow bystanders to see how the ballot was marked.

The reckless way automobile drivers dashed about in their cars was a source of some danger to pedestrians, and some narrow escapes were recorded. In one case an auto going up Main street at a high rate of speed endeavored to swerve to one side to avoid striking a sleigh, and while doing so skidded and came within an ace of turning over. Several men crossing the street also had narrow escapes from being run over.

The weather this morning was a bit cold for the men working about the wards, the thermometer registering two degrees above zero, but it was ideal for citizens in general.

Automobiles and vehicles of every description were out in force conveying people to the polling places and a general air of excitement prevailed.

In several polls women were being challenged. One woman went to a booth in the court house and asked if she had a vote there. Being told that she had not, she was advised to go to the registry office and return. A name placed on the list. This she did and returned to cast her ballot. She was then informed that having been once inside the booth she could not return. Unionist representatives objected and the sheriff was called down. He explained the act to the returning officer with the result that the woman was allowed to vote.

One soldier who had done his bit and had been returned with an honorable discharge was challenged by the Liberal in-terviewer and only on the occasion of the return of the ballot did they cease from attempting to bar his vote.

There was some trouble with naturalization of foreigners and on one occasion, it is said, an unmatrimonial alien was slipped through. The representatives of the other side got wind of it a trifle too late and for a few minutes it was feared that a reading of the riot act would be necessary. Fortunately things blew over.

Quebec, Dec. 17.—A record-smashing vote is being polled today in Quebec city for the general elections. The polls opened at 6 and at 7 about 4 per cent of the total vote had been polled. At 8 close to 25 per cent of the total vote was registered in Quebec South and about the same percentage was registered in the other divisions.

The weather is clear and cold and for the rural communities, good highways facilitate the polling.

Montreal, Dec. 17.—Despite bitter cold weather prevailing the voting here began early, and before 9 o'clock reports from the Montreal district indicated that a very large vote was to be expected. The polling booths were crowded all morning. The woman's vote was reported to be coming in very heavily.

It is estimated that 12,000 people will lose their votes in Montreal as a result of failure to register. Many were afraid that the voters' lists would be used as a basis for the application of conscription.

It is reported that a man walked into a polling booth on Prince Arthur street and said he had been sent by the returning officer to relieve the official there. The official was a little suspicious and got a scrutineer to telephone for a verification. The returning officer denied making any change, but the bogus official decamped when suspicions were aroused.

In Verdun the voters' list got mixed up in some way and most of the day was spent in trying to decide where the polling divisions was without ballot would vote.

In Jacques Cartier division one of the polling divisions was without ballot this morning.

A number of complaints were received during the morning of the introduction of the "red ballot" method of challenging votes. The principal objections were women and soldiers. These ballots are saved separately from the regular ballots to be dealt with judicially afterwards.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—Sir Robert Borden is the only member of the government who will get the election results tonight at the capital. Maritime province ministers, other than Sir Robert Borden, are in the east. Hon. J. D. Reid, minister of railways, with the exception of Hon. F. E. Blondin, who is overseas, will, it is expected, all hear the returns tonight in Montreal.

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Washington More Hopeful In War Than Week Ago

A New York despatch to J. M. Robinson & Sons says: "Secretary of War Baker in his weekly review of the war is more optimistic than he was a week ago. He believes the enemy will fall in the west and he doubts if reinforcements from the eastern front will be of any advantage."

Berlin, via London, Dec. 17.—The war office communication issued last evening says: "There is nothing new to report."

Paris, Dec. 17.—The war office announcement last night says: "Western front—There was intermittent artillery action over the greater part of the front, quite violent north of Courcy Wood. An enemy raid last night on our trenches south of St. Quentin completely failed."

Eastern theatre—The artillery was moderately active along the whole front. It was quite lively north of Monastir. Thirty allied airplanes bombed the railway station at Chestovo, eighteen kilometres northwest of Doiran. An enemy airplane was brought down by our artillery."

Rome, Sunday, Dec. 16.—The British war office statement on aerial operations issued last night follows: "Although the weather was fine Saturday a very high wind and ground mist interfered with reconnaissances and military work. Many rounds were fired during the day into enemy trenches and bombs were dropped on numerous targets, including two positions of long range guns southwest of Lille. Later we again bombed those gun positions."

During several flights three hostile machines were driven down and two driven down out of control. None of our machines are missing."

Italian Front. Rome, Sunday, Dec. 16.—There was little infantry fighting on the front between the Brenta and Piave Saturday, and one hostile attack was checked, the official statement from the war office today says. There was much artillery fighting on the northern front.

Turkish Report. London, Dec. 17.—"There is nothing of special interest to report," says today's official announcement from the war office.

London, Dec. 17.—Field Marshal Haig's headquarters Sunday night reported an enemy bombing attack northwest of La Vacquerie repulsed. "We improved our position slightly last night east of Oyon."

Turkish Statement. London, Dec. 17.—(British Admiralty per Wireless Press)—The occupation by the Turks of two islands off the coast of Asia Minor is announced in an official statement issued yesterday at Constantinople.

"On the coast in Palestine an attempt of a strong enemy patrol to advance was repulsed. East of Jerusalem there have been artillery duels at several points."

THE ELECTION RETURNS. The supporters of the union government will receive the result of the election in the Seaman's Institute and the Liberals at their headquarters in Dock street.

Further denial that Japanese troops have been landed at Vladivostok is contained in despatches to the state department at Washington from the American embassy in Tokio.

Toronto, Major-General Mewburn is in Hamilton; Hon. T. W. Crothers will get the results in his home town of St. Thomas, Sir Thomas White at Brockville, Hon. N. W. Rowell at Toronto, and Hon. Hugh Guthrie probably at Guelph. Western ministers are all in their own districts, while Sir Wilfrid Laurier will hear the results in Fort William. It is expected that an unusually large vote will be cast. At the capital there has been a steady rush to the polls since six o'clock. During the forenoon hours a heavy woman's vote was polled. Reports from surrounding constituencies also indicate a large vote.

SEPARATE PEACES.



RUSSIA

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London, Dec. 17.—Increased notices of consignments today eased down the corn market. Some enlargement of receipts counted also as a bearish factor.

Besides, more moderate temperatures indicated that chances were improving for an accumulation of stocks. Opening prices, which ranged from unchanged figures to 1-4 to 3-8 cent lower, with January 1-21 1-4 to 3-8, and May 1-19 1-4, were followed by declines all around, though not of a radical sort.

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Maritime—Moderate to fresh winds, mostly north and northeast, fair and decidedly cold today and on Tuesday.

Lake Superior—Strong winds; local snowfalls, but partly fair and mild today and Tuesday.

All West—Some local snow but mostly fair; not much change in temperature.

Washington, Dec. 17.—New England fair and continued cold tonight. Tuesday increasing cloudiness, probably snow, increasing winds.

ACQUISITION BY N. B. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

A. C. McCullough Superintendent of Poultry Division of the Department

Fredericton, Dec. 17.—A. C. McCullough, recently secured by the New Brunswick department of agriculture as superintendent of the poultry division of the department, has arrived in Fredericton and has taken up his duties. He has just completed two years of service in Oregon, where he filled a similar position. He is a native of Ontario and had the good fortune to be born on a farm. His agricultural education was received at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, at which institution he was instructed concerning poultry by Prof. W. B. Graham, considered the greatest authority in that subject in North America. Poultry raising and egg production have become two of the most important branches of agriculture and as such are to receive particular attention from the New Brunswick agricultural department under Hon. J. P. Tweeddale as minister and W. B. Reek as deputy minister. Mr. Reek was personally acquainted with the new head of the poultry division and obtained his services only after a long search.

Mr. McCullough will be one of the judges at the Fredericton poultry show on January 1, 2 and 3. He also will deliver addresses during the show. New Brunswick is recognized as being excellently situated for poultry raising. Its nearness to the British market gives it an advantage over other portions of the dominion.

WALL STREET TODAY

New York, Dec. 17.—Wall street—A further disposition to await developments at Washington was indicated at the opening of today's stock market. Rails were heavy, Norfolk and Western leading two points and Union Pacific a point, but industrials, especially equipments, oils and motors hardened. Prices improved generally before the end of the first half hour, steel, Reading and C. P. R. leading the advance. Liberty bonds were irregular.

Noon Report

Intimations that federal action on the railroad situation may be deferred until after the holidays gained currency during the morning session. A general setback. Active industrials and rails reacted one to three points, and war shares and specialties two to five. Fresh selling of utilities also ensued. American Telephone, Western Union and Consolidated Gas declining two to three and a half points, while Consolidated Gas and Electric (Baltimore) dropped one and a half points. Important foreign and domestic records near minimums.

THE CORN MARKET

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WEATHER REPORT

Phelps and Ferdinand. Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. P. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—A very pronounced area of high pressure covers the eastern portion of the continent and decidedly cold weather prevails from the Ottawa Valley to the maritime provinces. It has become much milder in all parts of the west.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Southeast to south winds, generally fair and mild today and Tuesday.

Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Fair and cold, moderating on Tuesday.

Gulf and North Shore—Moderate winds and decidedly cold today and on Tuesday.

Decidedly Cold.

Maritime—Moderate to fresh winds, mostly north and northeast, fair and decidedly cold today and on Tuesday.

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Fredericton News.

Fredericton, Dec. 17.—David L. Evans, a farmer of Cardigan, died on Sunday at the age of eighty-five years. Two sons, William A. and Thomas, survive.

Two nurses were sent to Halifax this morning by the Fredericton committee, Miss Elizabeth Charters of Providence, and Miss Nellie Strang of Gagetown.

The officials of the Red Cross summoned the Ukrainian troops quartered in Odessa. These attacked the Maximalists who were defeated after heavy fighting, in which there were many casualties on both sides. The sailors of the Black Sea fleet participated in the fighting.

Afterward the Black Sea sailors divided, the majority going over to the Ukrainians, who are preventing the Bolsheviks from sending troops from Odessa against General Kaledin.

Sir George E. Foster Improving. Toronto, Dec. 17.—The condition of Sir George Foster, minister of trade and commerce, who was seriously injured on Friday evening, was stated this morning to be all that could be desired.



DESTROYER, SIX MERCHANTMEN AND FOUR MINE-SWEEPERS SUNK BY GERMANS IN NORTH SEA

London, Dec. 17.—One British and five neutral merchant men, a British destroyer and four mine-sweepers have been sunk in the North Sea by German naval forces.

DETAILS OF CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM BY BRITISH

Turks Put up Strong Fight; Our Troops Shelled and Unable to Reply; Magnificent Action Won Victory

London, Dec. 17.—In attacks preceding the surrender of Jerusalem the Turks employed storming troops in successive assaults on Nebi Samuel, northwest of the Holy City, then held by London troops, according to a Reuter despatch from British headquarters in Palestine.

The despatch, which was sent by airplane, gives details of the capture and the entry into Jerusalem. The final Turkish attack was preceded by such a heavy shelling that it appeared the enemy was confident the British would be blown off the summit, but all their attacks were repulsed sanguinarily. The Turks had a strong line west, south and northeast of Jerusalem. They were well provided with machine guns and their artillery dominated the crests over which the British should have to advance. Some Turkish guns were placed just outside the city walls, making it impossible to reply to the fire without endangering the town.

A torrential rain made the roads impassable, while a chilly east wind pierced the soldiers' clothes to the bone. The problems of supply and transport almost drove us to despair.

"The camels were unable to keep a foothold on the slippery paths. Nevertheless, the food and ammunition supply was maintained fully.

"On the night of December 7, when our attack began, the men moved up under cover of darkness, the attack being on Nebi Samuel, from which the Londoners advanced eastward toward Jerusalem, while other troops ascended the Hebron road, threatening the town from the south.

"They found Hebron evacuated but encountered resistance around Bethlehem, where the Turks also had posted machine guns and howitzers rendered dangerous the sacred village. Hence our troops had the disagreeable experience of being shelled without the ability to retaliate, but they pressed forward and by noon of the eighth were two miles north of Bethlehem.

"The Londoners had a hard task on the steep slopes of the Judean hills, where it was impossible to bring field guns to their support, but some mountain batteries and howitzers rendered magnificent service, and by seven in the morning the Londoners had come to grips, stormed and captured all the enemy works west of the town. The Turks still held the last line on the ridge overlooking Jerusalem, having posted numerous machine guns in the houses of the Jewish and German colonists in the furthest outskirts of the town. The position was charged late in the afternoon of the eighth. The magnificent feat was crowned with complete success and the Turks were driven out at the point of the bayonet, the survivors bolting to either side of the town. Their losses were enormous.

"Throughout the whole fighting around Jerusalem the Turks showed a more desperate spirit and a greater tenacity than in almost any previous fighting. They stayed their ground to the last.

"During the night the Turks withdrew to the north and east of the city, and at eight o'clock on the morning of the ninth the mayor and chief of police came out with a flag of truce and surrendered the town."

Hockey Matters. Toronto, Dec. 17.—Manager Querrie of the Toronto Hockey Club, has made Inglewood, Renfrew, recommended by Player Cameron, an offer. He has also suspended Harry Munnery, the former Quebec and Canadian player, indefinitely. Munnery has refused to report.

RETURNED MEN HERE. Three steamers arrived in port this afternoon with returned soldiers. Two were hospital ships and the third a troopship. One of the steamers docked at Sand Point a little before 8 o'clock.

Allies To Reorganize The Bolsheviki

Prevent Russia From Passing Into German Control—Armistice Probably Signed Yesterday—Peace Negotiations to Follow—Trotzky Threatens Terrors of French Revolution

London, Dec. 17.—London newspapers forecast that the "Allies will recognize the de facto rule of the Bolsheviki in order to prevent Russia from passing under the political and economic heel of Germany."

This is along the lines of a statement made by Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade to the Associated Press on Friday. A step in the re-establishment of relations with Russia may be seen in the report that Great Britain has decided to release a Russian named Tchitcherin, who is in prison in London as a treasonous propagandist, but who has been chosen by the Bolsheviki as ambassador to London. The Bolsheviki have now withdrawn refusal to permit British civilians or couriers to leave Russia. Presumably the Bolsheviki will not insist on Tchitcherin taking the post of ambassador, and he will return to Russia immediately.

London, Dec. 16.—While the Russians are continuing to make progress in the ratification of an armistice arrangement with the Germans, the Entente governments apparently are approaching an agreement for more sympathetic dealings with the Bolsheviki government. The adoption of a more tolerant attitude toward Russia is said to have been urged by the American delegates to the recent Paris conference, and this viewpoint now apparently has been adopted by all the members of the Entente. Lord Northcliffe's Weekly Despatch says today: "The belief here is that the Bolsheviki government is likely to remain in power for a long time. The principal aim of the Entente heretofore will be to try to assist in every effort to bring Russia relief from an economic collapse."

Despatches during the last twenty-four hours from Petrograd tell of further efforts by the Bolsheviki to consolidate their government in civil life and with the army.

The constitutional democrats announce the formation of a constitutional democratic government in Poland. Alleged Terms.

Petrograd, Sunday, Dec. 16.—The terms of the Russo-German armistice, according to a statement issued here, obligate no transference of troops until January 14 (January 1, Russian); no increase of troops on the fronts or on the islands in the Moon Sound or a re-grouping of forces. The Germans are not to concentrate troops between the Black Sea and the Baltic east of the 15th degree longitude east of Greenwich. Intercourse between the troops may be allowed from sunrise to sunset. Groups are limited to twenty-five persons at a time who may exchange newspapers, and unsealed mails and who may carry on trade and exchange articles of prime necessity.

A special agreement will be made by the naval general staff regarding the extension of the armistice to the White Sea and the Russian coast in the Arctic zone. It is agreed also that attacks on war and commercial vessels must stop in the regions in order to avoid accidents in other seas.

The armistice on the naval fronts embraces all of the Black Sea and the Baltic Sea east of the Meridian 15 degrees east of Greenwich. The demarcation line fixed for the Black Sea is from the lighthouse of Slinka to the estuary of the Danube to Cape Ganos. In the Baltic the line runs from Rogoel to the western coast of Worms Island to the island of Bagshar to Kiemarne.

Russian war vessels must not cross south of this line, and the other parties must not go north.

The Russian government guarantees that the Entente war vessels will obey the rules of this provision and that Russian warships will not be allowed to sail among the Aland Islands.

Immediately after the signing of the armistice peace negotiations are to be begun. Washington Holds Off.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Recognition of the Bolsheviki by the United States still is remote. Reports suggesting a developing sentiment in favor of dealing with the new regime as a de facto government have found no response here and the United States will continue its policy of awaiting developments.

Trotzky's Threat. Petrograd, Dec. 17.—Trotzky, Bolsheviki foreign minister, in an address to his opponents, said yesterday: "You are perturbed by a mild terror we are applying to our enemies. But know that within a month this terror will take the terrible form of the French revolutionary terror—not the fortress, but the guillotine."

Trouble in Odessa. London, Dec. 17.—The Petrograd railwaymen's union, according to a Reuter despatch, has received a telegram to the effect that the Maximalist troops in Odessa attacked the arsenal, where the Ukrainian Reds was assembled. The officials of the Reds summoned the Ukrainian troops quartered in Odessa. These attacked the Maximalists who were defeated after heavy fighting, in which there were many casualties on both sides. The sailors of the Black Sea fleet participated in the fighting.

Afterward the Black Sea sailors divided, the majority going over to the Ukrainians, who are preventing the Bolsheviks from sending troops from Odessa against General Kaledin.

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SHIP'S BAND DROWNED SOUNDS AS WIRELESS APPARATUS WORKED

German Tricky on Board Geir Uncovered—Furthering Plot to Embroil U. S. and Japan

Honolulu, Dec. 17.—While the ship's band was playing lively tunes to drown out all tell-tale sounds, the wireless apparatus of the German cruiser Geir at the time she was interested in this harbor, relayed messages between German agents in the United States and Japan in furtherance of a plot to embroil the two countries in war, according to an article printed in the Star-Bulletin here.

The article, which is published with the authority of the United States naval intelligence bureau, declares that the seal placed on the Geir's wireless by the American government was broken by the Germans in order that the messages might be transmitted.

This information was obtained from the diary of Captain Grasshof of that vessel, the article states.

The article says that Grasshof was court-martialed after the discovery of the diary and is now in solitary confinement pending his removal to Fort Douglas, Utah.

On Feb. 4, 1917, the Geir was set after by her crew and badly damaged. Afterward she was towed to the Pacific coast for repairs.

FINDS HER BOY

Archie Strachan, Injured in Halifax; Mother Finds Him in New Glasgow Hospital

Archie Strachan, eight-year-old son of Mrs. W. Strachan, of Waterloo street, who was in Halifax during the explosion, and who was listed as missing, was found by his mother in a hospital in New Glasgow. Mrs. Strachan intended to spend Christmas in Halifax with relatives and sent the boy ahead, as she had some shopping to do here before leaving. She was unable to get to Halifax for two days after the disaster and when she did arrive she could find no trace of her son. She searched every hospital and morgue, but with no avail, and was about to give up the search when a man whom she accosted told her that a young boy was taken aboard one of the hospital ships.

On going there she learned that the boy was taken there but later removed to a hospital in New Glasgow. Mrs. Strachan went to New Glasgow and there in a hospital she found the boy, who was quite badly cut.

In company with the boy Mrs. Strachan arrived in the city on Friday morning. It was learned that the boy had been found on a doorstep of a house in Halifax and taken to the hospital ship. The house in which he was staying was wrecked and the occupants killed.

DIES AT MOTHER'S FEET

Little Girl Shot; Believed Her Brother Did it by Accident

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 17.—With a thirty-two calibre bullet in her breast, believed to have been fired accidentally by an elder brother, eleven-year-old Arnie Fetekow rushed screaming into the kitchen of her home yesterday and dropped dead at her mother's feet. The child was in the yard with her fourteen-year-old brother, who is thought to have fired the shot from a revolver with which he was playing. He disappeared immediately after the shooting, and up to a late hour last night had not been found.

TWO FOUND DEAD; BELIEVED CARBONIC POISONING THE CAUSE

Toronto, Dec. 16.—Overcome by carbonic poisoning, Harvey Legault of Montreal, and Ada Blunt were found dead in a room here on Saturday. Apparently, on retiring for the night, they had found the room cold, and lighted a small gas stove. Every burner in the stove was burning, and the police believe that the flames exhausted the oxygen in the room.

HEAVY LOSSES TO THE GERMANS BY EXPLOSIONS

London, Dec. 16.—Zurich despatches report an explosion in the Zeppelin works at Friedrichshaven, with the death or injury of many. Near Kiel a factory where bombs were prepared for Zeppelins and airplanes was destroyed. Many of the employes were killed.