

BRITISH GOVT. ADOPTS COMPULSORY RATIONING

Circulation Last Week
280,080
Daily Average, 46,680

53rd YEAR. No. 22971

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 3, 1918.

80 COLUMNS

HOME
EDITION

PRICE, TWO CENTS.

WAR LORDS ARE WELL SCARED AT THE PEACE SNAG

WM. PROUDFOOT, K.C. SELECTED AS TEMPORARY LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY IN ONTARIO IN SUCCESSION TO HON. N. W. ROWELL. THE SELECTION WAS MADE AT A CONFERENCE OF LIBERAL M.P.'S. AND PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES HELD AT THE HOTEL MANCHESTER, LONDON, ON TUESDAY. THE DECISION WAS UNANIMOUS, DECLARED CHAS. M. BOWMAN, CHIEF LIBERAL WHIP, WHO CALLED THE CONFERENCE TOGETHER AND PRESIDED OVER THE GATHERING. SEVERAL OTHER NAMES WERE MENTIONED, BUT THEY WITHDREW IN FAVOR OF MR. PROUDFOOT.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Toronto, Jan. 3.—Wm. Proudfoot, K. C., of Centre Huron, is the new temporary leader of the Liberal party in Ontario in succession to Hon. N. W. Rowell. The selection was made at a conference of Liberal M. P.'s. and prospective candidates held at the Hotel Manchester, London, on Tuesday. The decision was unanimous, declared Chas. M. Bowman, chief Liberal whip, who called the conference together and presided over the gathering. Several other names were mentioned, but they withdrew in favor of Mr. Proudfoot.

Decision Unanimous.
The name of Mr. Bowman was mentioned at the beginning of the meeting, but he waived his claim of seniority, and Mr. Proudfoot was elected. Mr. Bowman and J. C. Elliott (West Middlesex) were also mentioned, but they withdrew, their names making the decision unanimous, added Mr. MacDonald.

"Mr. Proudfoot will be our leader in the House during the coming session," said Mr. Bowman in the closing session of the conference. "He is a man of high character and high ability, and I am confident that he will lead the Liberal party to victory in the coming election."

This afternoon the members will meet again in the reform association rooms to consider matters relating to organization. Among the M. P.'s present were Scott Davidson, J. C. Elliott, Joseph H. Hym, South Brant; William MacDonald, North Bruce; W. R. Ferguson, East Huron; J. C. Elliott, West Middlesex; J. A. P. MacDonald, North York; W. J. Lowe, Peel; T. Wellington Hay, Huron; Danes MacInnes, Russell; J. Macdonald, Sturgeon Falls; and Mr. Richardson, East Hamilton.

Today's choice of a leader was in accordance with the recommendation of a small committee of five, who have been working for some time, and have had the question under consideration for several weeks, and any division of opinion that may have existed was overcome by the withdrawal of the other names mentioned.

90 MEN ACROSS BORDER DONNED CANADIAN KHAKI
December Month-End Recruiting Shows Big Percentage From Recruiting Mission.

W. O. R. GOT 103 MEN
Bar Against All But Married Men On This Side of Line Kept Figures Down.

Out of 159 men who volunteered their services for the Canadian army during the month of December, 90 signed up at the various offices of the British-Canadian Recruiting Mission in London, Ontario. The remaining 69 were attested in Canada, but this is not considered as a showing as many of the recruits are now available as recruiting prospects in Canada.

The last detachment of the Western Ontario Regiment, secured by far the greatest number of men, 103 having gone to that unit during the month. Next in order came the 63rd Depot Battalion, which secured 19, the 1st Canadian Engineers 11, No. 1 Special Service Company 4, 7th Regiment Guard Details 2, No. 1 Detachment of Military Police and A. M. C. Training Depot 2.

The Canadians both in the United States and in Canada made an excellent showing, leading other nationalities with 62 men, while the natives of England followed with 33. Scotland and Ireland each secured 10, and the United States had three, and 47 men were of other nationalities, including many Armenians and many citizens of the United States.

SUCCUMBS TO BURNS IN GAS EXPLOSION
One Dead and Another Seriously Injured In Ingersoll Accident.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ingersoll, Jan. 3.—Merl D. Montgomery, manager of the Ingersoll Light Company, who was seriously injured in the mysterious explosion at the gas works late yesterday afternoon, succumbed to his injuries at Alexandra Hospital about 4 o'clock this morning. Montgomery, who was an experienced gas man, had been in Ingersoll for over four years. He was 31 years old, and leaves a widow. His home was in Pennsylvania.

A private funeral will be held at the arrangements have not yet been made. The condition of Harley, the other victim of the explosion, is very serious.

HYMN WRITER DEAD
Mr. J. H. Hym, author of many famous hymns, including "I Need Thee, O Lord, Every Hour," died at his home today at the age of 83.

NO GOVT. PLAN TO TAKE OVER THE PACKERS
No Such Action Under Consideration, Asserts Food Controller.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, Jan. 3.—Inquiry at the office of the food controller this morning elicited the information that there is no foundation for the statement that the government is considering the taking over of the packing houses on March 1 next. Such action is not under consideration by the government.

WAR LORDS ARE WELL SCARED AT THE PEACE SNAG
Hurry Up Conference Between the Kaiser and His Counsellors.

SOCIALISTS AGGRESSIVE
Demand Calling of Reichstag To Discuss Negotiations With Russia.

London, Jan. 3.—The situation created by the hit in the Brest-Litovsk negotiations, dispatches from Amsterdam reflecting news from Berlin, show, has aroused the activities of the rulers and politicians of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Everybody Busy.
Chancellor von Hertling had a long conversation with the Kaiser, and the former minister of marine and commerce, Admiral von Tirpitz, and the foreign secretary, Count von Kuhlmann, were also present.

Leaders of all parties were present at the conference, according to information received in Amsterdam, and they informed Mr. von Kuhlmann that they adhered strongly to the demand that the Reichstag be summoned as speedily as possible. It is expected that the demand will be discussed in committee, which Chancellor von Hertling will attend.

The feature of the conference is said to have been the outspoken speeches of Philipp Scheidemann and Friedrich Ebert for the official Socialists, and Hugo Haase, for the Independent Socialists. They are credited with having told von Kuhlmann that his attitude in the Russian negotiations was prejudicial to peace.

It is reported that both von Kuhlmann and Count Czernin, the Austrian foreign secretary, returned to their respective capitals yesterday with new instructions.

Not For Just Peace.
The Leipzig Volks Zeitung, leading industrial showing, leading other nationalities with 62 men, while the natives of England followed with 33. Scotland and Ireland each secured 10, and the United States had three, and 47 men were of other nationalities, including many Armenians and many citizens of the United States.

Germany now reveals her eastern peace aims. Everybody in Germany knows that she is not aiming at a just peace without annexations and indemnities, but at a peace providing for an enormous increase in Germany's military, political and economic strength.

These intentions must strengthen the war will of the Entente. Germany in her desire to annex territories has declared their willingness to be severed from Russia is untrue. Indemnities have been demanded, but they always have been demanded, and are acting on some German suggestion.

50 PER CENT OF TRAINS OPERATING FROM CHICAGO ARE TO BE ELIMINATED
Chicago, Jan. 3.—Approximately 50 per cent of the passenger trains operating west, northwest and southwest from Chicago will be eliminated if tentative plans made by railroad companies are put into effect. It was announced today. Definite announcement as to what course the railroads will take will be made in a few days, it was said.

BRITISH AND FRENCH WIPED OUT AT IRKUTSK?
Petrograd, Monday, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the British embassy from the British consul at Harbin, Manchuria, says the British and French residents of Irkutsk, Siberia, have been "exterminated" in the recent fighting against the Bolshevik forces. The dispatch adds that Irkutsk was under heavy bombardment for two days, and much property was destroyed.

REV. R. C. OKE CALLED.
Brantford, Jan. 3.—Alexander Presbyterial Church here has professed a call to Rev. R. C. Oke of Toronto, a returned Canadian Expeditionary Force captain and a young clergyman of brilliant attainments. It is expected that the call will be accepted, as he recently preached at Alexandra Church.

RUSSIANS WILL NOT CONSENT TO TEUTONIC PEACE TERMS
SAYS 'RED' FOREIGN MINISTER; GETS READY FOR HOSTILITIES

Kaiser's Terms Considered Unacceptable and Unjust By Bolshevik Rulers, Who Demand Negotiations Be Resumed at Some Neutral Points--Petrograd Expects Early Resumption of Hostilities With Weakened Forces.

Central Powers Drop Mask; NOT FOR A DEMOCRATIC PEACE
Petrograd, Jan. 3.—The Bolshevik foreign minister, Leon Trotsky, declared today that the Government, for the Russian workers, would not consent to the German peace proposals.

M. Trotsky's declaration was made before the central committee of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, during an address, in which he denounced in scathing terms "Germany's hypocritical peace proposal," asserting that the Government of Russian workers would not consent to such conditions. He said that if the central powers did not agree to free disposal of the destiny of the Polish and Lithuanian nations it would be urgently necessary to defend the Russian revolution. He said the needs of the front would be satisfied, whatever effort might be necessary.

Representatives from all the fronts who attended the meeting declared the troops would defend the revolution, but said bread and boots were necessary.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Jan. 2.—The Russian peace delegation officially has suggested to the central powers that the peace delegates be transferred to neutral soil, and has protested against certain articles in the Austro-German terms already submitted.

The halt in the Russo-German peace negotiations, and indications of a German refusal to move the conference to Stockholm, has revived universal discussion in Petrograd of a resumption of fighting with a greatly reduced army, probably 3,000,000 men.

Hostilities Near.
Even the most radical Bolsheviks and the most ardent pacifists have been aroused by the new position. They declare that a resumption of hostilities is inevitable, and that it is possible to organize and make effective a small army.

Chairman Joffe of the Russian peace delegation sent an official telegram to the chairman of the German-Bulgarian-Turkish delegations, saying that the Russian republic demands necessary to conduct further peace negotiations on neutral soil, and suggesting a transfer of the conference to Stockholm. The telegram declares that the Russian peace delegation is expected by Russia in Petrograd.

Terms Unacceptable.
Articles 1 and 2 of the Austro-German terms, submitted December 12 (December 23, new style), the message says, are in direct conflict with the principles of self-determination of nations insisted upon by the Russian republic, and supported by the Russian republic and the central executive committee of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates.

Articles 1 and 2 of the Austro-German terms, as called under a Brest-Litovsk date, covered the ending of a Russian occupation of Russian territory. In Article 2, however, it was declared that the people of Poland, Lithuania, Courland and portions of Estonia and Livonia, demand independence, and that the Russian republic demands the restoration of these territories to the German occupation of Russian territory did not apply to these districts, which include some of the Russian territory captured by the Germans.

THE MASK IS OFF.
Petrograd, Jan. 2.—Petrograd newspapers are unanimous in declaring that the Germans and Austrians have, after one week, thrown off the mask and made it clear that the central powers are in direct conflict with the principles of self-determination of nations insisted upon by the Russian republic, and supported by the Russian republic and the central executive committee of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates.

On Tuesday evening, at a joint meeting of the central executive committee of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, representatives of the peasants' deputies, the Petrograd workers' and soldiers' council, and representatives of the general army congress for the demobilization of the army, a resolution was adopted declaring that the German peace terms were unjust. It denounced Germany's demands for the Baltic provinces as tyrannical, and authorized the Government to take steps to transfer future peace negotiations to a neutral country.

Russians generally favor Stockholm for the peace conference, but it is also

FOOD CARDS FOR ENGLAND
Compulsory Rationing To Be Put Into Effect, Govt. Announces.

London, Jan. 3.—Compulsory rationing is to be put into effect in England soon, it was announced officially today.

THE WAR SITUATION
A crisis is nearing in the Austro-German peace negotiations and indications are that a definite break is not far off. The Russian Government has demanded that the conference, which was to have been reconvened on January 8, be transferred to Stockholm, and has protested against the German attitude regarding occupied territory.

A resumption of hostilities is inevitable should the Germans decline to meet the Russian demands. Emperor William and the rulers of Germany apparently are anxious to see the sudden change in the situation and the German and Austrian foreign secretaries are reported hurrying back to Berlin with new instructions.

German military and political leaders conferred yesterday with the emperor, and there is a widespread demand throughout Germany that the Reichstag be convened immediately. Reichstag leaders at a conference with Foreign Secretary von Kuhlmann discussed the situation and the leaders of the regular and independent Socialists are reported to have expressed dissatisfaction with the German attitude concerning occupied territory.

Would Upset German Plans.
A break off in peace negotiations probably will upset all German plans to press a formidable attack on the western front. The confidence is expressed in Petrograd that the Russian Government might put an army of 3,000,000 men in the field, and the Bolshevik red guard, made up of armed Russian workers, already has taken over the past six weeks of German territory in the west.

A complete break undoubtedly would compel the Germans to return to the eastern front the troops they have taken away within the past six weeks, and would make it impossible for the Germans to renew trade relations with Russia in order to obtain much-needed foodstuffs.

Winter Halts Fighting.
Snow and inclement weather are holding in check any large scale operations on the western and Italian fronts. The Greek and Italian counter-attacks to enemy raids at various points, where the German artillery bombardment in the Ypres and Verdun sectors still is very active.

Increased loss of merchantmen is shown in the current British and French reports. Through mines and submarines the British lost 21 vessels, including 18 of more than 1,000 tons, or more than the previous week, when 12, including 11 of the larger tonnage, were sunk. French losses were nine steamers of more than 1,000 tons, compared with two in the previous week.

Submarine Losses.
December shipping losses were but slightly higher than those in November, which established a low record. Submarine sinkings, also are said to have been more common in December than in any previous month, being greater than the number the Germans probably were able to build. The severe weather conditions are believed to have added to the effectiveness of the submarines in the North Sea.

The statement was that they would have been shot of the coast by the Czechs. The statement was that they would have been shot of the coast by the Czechs. The statement was that they would have been shot of the coast by the Czechs.

TO CARRY SCHOOL CASE TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL
[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, Jan. 3.—It is the intention of the Ottawa Separate School Board to appeal to the privy council for a decision as to the constitutionality of the Ontario Provincial Government act, which empowers the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to name a school board to administer the separate schools.

AMERICAN BANK BRANCH SEIZED BY BOLSHIEVSKI
Petrograd, Jan. 2.—The Moscow branch of the National City Bank of New York, which for several days has been closed, was seized by the Bolshevik revolutionaries Sunday night. H. J. Dreyer, the manager, was not arrested.

DECIDING AGENTS NAMED FOR DEFECTIVE BALLOTS AMONGST SOLDIERS' VOTE
[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, Jan. 3.—Several orders-in-council have been passed by the Government, the object of which is to facilitate the counting and placing of the soldiers' ballots. In the case of a defective ballot upon which the scrutineers can't agree it is provided that overseas, Major Turner, assistant clerk of the crown in chancery, shall be the deciding agent while in Canada, J. G. Foley, clerk of the crown in chancery, shall decide. In the case of ballots allotted to pieces of the case of ballots do not actually exist or which cannot be located, such ballots shall be sent to Canada for identification.

THE WEATHER
LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 15; lowest, 3 above.

THE WEATHER
TOMORROW—MODERATING.
Petrograd, Jan. 3.—A fair day with light winds, moderating. The following were the highest and lowest temperatures for the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Forecast.
Today—Fair and very cold.
Friday—Southeasterly winds, moderating.
Saturday—Fair and very cold.

Another storm now developing near the Middle Atlantic coast will probably cause gales with snow in the maritime provinces. The weather continues very cold from Ontario eastward and comparatively mild in the western provinces.