

REPORTS OF ATTACKS ON ALLIES AT SALONIKI NOT CONFIRMED; BRITISH REPEL TURKISH ASSAULTS

Many Greeks on Verge of Mutiny on Account of Inactivity Against Their Hereditary Foes, the Bulgars-Germans Planning Big Offensive in West is Latest Report-King Peter Arrives in Italy.

BRITISH REPEL TURKISH ASSAULTS AT KUT-EL-AMARA.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Despatches from Delhi report that a vigorous Turkish assault against the British forces at Kut-el-Amara was driven back with heavy loss to the Turks.

GERMANS MAY BEGIN OFFENSIVE ON WESTERN FRONT.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—Indications along the western front point to an offensive by Germans before the end of the year.

The enemy's artillery and infantry continue feeling for a suitable spot.

GREEK OFFICERS AND MEN ON VERGE OF MUTINY.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—A despatch from Athens states that the recent long leave granted of officers and men of the Greek army was because they were on the verge of mutiny at not being allowed to attack their hereditary foes, the Bulgarians.

The rest of the Greek army is said to be showing much discontent.

NO CONFIRMATION OF REPORTS OF ATTACK ON SALONIKI.

ATHENS, Dec. 27.—There is no confirmation as yet of the reports from Saloniki of attacks on the advanced ports of the allies.

SERBIAN KING ARRIVES IN ITALY.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—A despatch from Brindisi Italy, says King Peter of Serbia has arrived here on board an Italian cruiser to recruit his health.

FIRE ENDANGERS GERMAN MUNITIONS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Fire early today endangered a vast store of rifles and ammunition in a house belonging to Germans. The equipment is said to have been purchased some time ago but could not be shipped owing to the refusal of British vessels to aid the enemy.

U. S. BANKS DISMISS GERMAN EMPLOYEES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Two German clerks in the foreign exchange department of the National City Bank it is learned have been forced to resign. This is said to be preliminary to a move by the bank to weed out a number of Germans in its employ.

GERMAN REPORTS CONCERNING BRITISH CABINET.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 27.—The Zeitung am Mittag of Berlin prints a despatch reporting that the British cabinet is one the eve of resignation and that Premier Asquith and Foreign Secretary Grey will withdraw, while Earl Kitchener will leave the war office for Egypt.

The new head of the government says the newspaper will be Lord Haldane and Lord Fisher will become First Lord of the Admiralty.

GERMANS LOST THOUSANDS IN VAIN ATTACKS.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—"Information received regarding the fighting on Dec. 21, between Ypres and Armentieres indicates that the Germans sustained a loss of over 8,000 men without gaining any ground," says a despatch to La Liberté from its correspondent on the northern front. "The fighting was most severe and a large quantity of asphyxiating gas was used, but the English lines remained intact. The attack is thought to have been the prelude to an offensive or for the purpose of testing the strength of the English front."

GUN DUEL NEAR SOMME.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The British statement from army headquarters in France last night says:

"There has been some mining activity south of the La Basse Canal, where an enemy mine failed to do any damage to our trenches. North of the Somme our artillery was effective against the enemy's positions. East of Albert, and elsewhere along the front, nothing but intermittent minor artillery engagements have occurred."

EXPLODE TRAIN OF MUNITIONS.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Christmas was spent in the trenches very much as other days have been spent, namely, in a heavy bombardment of the German positions at selected places on the front. The Germans also displayed the same sort of activity against British and French positions. The same sort of warfare was continued today.

Marked activity was displayed in shelling trenches on both sides in the Lombaertzyde region in Belgium, while the French artillery heavily bombarded German works at the south of Angres and in the Arras region. A German convoy proceeding from Tahure to Somme-Py in Champagne was dispersed by a few well directed salvoes, and some successful shelling of the enemy works was conducted around the Navarin farm. A munitions depot of the Germans was exploded at a point northeast of Regnierville in the Woevre.

The French fought an intense artillery duel with the Germans in the Vosges Saturday and Sunday. French positions on the Hirzsteeren front and the northern slopes of Hartmanns-Wellerkopf were heavily shelled. A German munitions train standing at the Hachimette railway station, southeast of Bonhoome was bombarded and a heavy explosion was noted by French observers.

On the British front only normal artillery activity prevailed on Christmas day. Calm also prevailed on the Belgian front, excepting for some activity at the centre where the Belgians retaliated in kind to some German shelling.

HOCKEY

Belleville 7, Stirling 4.

On Saturday evening at the Arena, Belleville Junior Hockey team was seen in its first game, an exhibition match with Stirling of the Trent Valley League. The contest was the locals' all the way through until toward the close when Stirling players scored more heavily. Mr. Phil Whittle of Stirling was referee.

Belleville started off with three goals to none for Stirling in the first period, the scoring in the second was Belleville 2, Stirling 1; and in the third, Belleville 2, Stirling 3. Total Belleville 7, Stirling 4.

Line-up was:

Stirling.	Belleville.
Goal	Nurse
Left Defence	Reid
Right Defence	Holloway
Centre	L. Arnett
Rover	G. Arnett
Right Wing	Green
Left Wing	Whelan

The ease with which Corns and Warts can be removed by Holloway's Corn Cure is its strongest recommendation. It seldom fails.

Poor Children's Xmas Tree

On Christmas Day at about 1.30 in the afternoon several hundred children had gathered at the armouries for the poor children's Christmas tree which the 15th Regt. band had prepared for them. Owing to the bad weather hundreds of others were unable to attend.

Although the tree was quite a success all the poor children could not be reached as many names had been sent in without the ages and street addresses and time would not permit the investigation of all cases.

Assistance was given in the armouries by several citizens for which the band were very thankful and they did not finish till near six o'clock and without their assistance they would have been kept much later in closing the Xmas tree.

Mr. Sam Turner acted the part of Santa Claus to perfection and added much to the joy of the children.

The expense in connection with the tree was about two hundred dollars, and for the following donations the Fifteenth band are very grateful:

- Col. L. W. Marsh 10.00
 - Col. W. N. Ponton 5.00
 - H. W. Ackerman 5.00
 - Re J. Graham 5.00
 - Giffin Theater 16.00
 - T. Ramsey's dance 16.00
 - Palace Theater 4.75
 - F. Barrett drawing 13.45
 - The Pringle Co. for lumber, etc.; The Forin estate for use of store; the Trenton Electric Co. for power, etc.; and many others for assistance and goods and the newspapers of the city for the assistance given by them.
- Following are some of the goods given away:
- 228 oranges
 - 45 hockey sticks
 - 26 dresses
 - 18 bonnets
 - 24 boys' shirts
 - 370 toys
 - 36 sweater coats
 - 46 pair stockings
 - 48 pair mittens
 - 17 pair rubbers
 - 36 pieces underwear

- 14 skirts
 - 18 wedding
 - 13 pair boys' pants
 - 12 pair skates
 - 180 pounds candy
 - 40 boxes candy
 - 20 boys caps
 - 48 dolls
 - 36 books
 - 240 games
 - 6 ruffs
 - 20 loaves
 - 75 Xmas stockings
 - one pair boots
 - 5 blouses
 - 3 pair shoe-packs
 - 20 sets dishes
 - 13 scarfs
 - 48 child's waists and numerous other articles, in all over 2,000.
- The number winning the mandolin is held by Mr. Dawkins, 224 John St.

Police Blotter.

The police answered a large number of calls over the week end, one to Pinnacle Street near the Canning Factory where a girl was arrested for vagrancy; to Cedar Street, where a drunken soldier was reported to be; to 277 John Street where a man had been begging, but was not found by the police; to a residence on the west side where father and son being in liquor had drinks, finally subsiding into sleep; a call to a hotel where a man had to be taken care of lest he might insult a guest; and other calls.

William Sweet was arrested, charged with being drunk.

Arthur Hughie Patterson, alias Charles White, was arrested on a warrant charging him with stealing in September a gold open face watch from a farmer named Richard L. Vancott of Ameliasburg for whom he had worked.

Emily Johnson, aged 17, Picton, is charged with vagrancy.

William Sweet on a charge of drunk was allowed to go.

Emily Johnson was found guilty of

vagrancy this morning and sentenced to not less than six months and not more than two years less one day.

Arthur Hughie Patterson has been remanded on a charge of theft.

A man named James Elliott of Tyendinaga was arrested today and remanded on a charge of stealing some crushed grain.

Wedded at Christ Ch.

Mr. Henry Pigdon and Mrs. N. F. Fleming, both of this city were united in marriage on Wednesday evening, Dec. 22nd at Christ Church by Rev. Dr. Bisgrave. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Newson acted as groomsmen and bridesman.

A few intimate friends were present to witness the nuptial service, after which the happy party repaired to the bride's home on Ann street, where a sumptuous wedding dinner was served. The newly wedded pair then took their departure by the bound train for a honeymoon after which they will take residence on Ann street.

Mr. Pigdon is one of the most popular members of the G.T.R. staff at this point, while Mrs. Fleming, a host of friends in the city, will join in wishing by pair many long years of wealth, and prosperity.

New Organ Played

The grand new pipe organ at Michael's Church was played for the first time at midnight mass on Monday night, Mr. A. L. Ingram and Mr. E. Wheatley presiding at the instrument. The organ is one of the finest in this portion of the province.

Rev. Father Killeen chanted midnight mass.

The beautiful music of the mass provided ample scope for the range of the new instrument.

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE.

—BY REV. A. M. HUBLY—

With the Angel's message of "good tidings" in our ears, and the song of the Heavenly Host, echoing in our hearts, we would like to forget the awful ravages of war among the Christian nations, during the year just passing, and to shut our eyes from beholding the revolting spectacle of a world drenched in blood!

How shall we spend our Christmas so as to give emphasis to its message of "peace and good will"? There is one great fact which will help us to decide. That fact is, that notwithstanding a year and a half of worldwide war, the thought of Christendom is forced back to the Bethlehem manger, and Mary's baby, over whose birth the celestial choir sang the prophetic song of peace. Two thousand years, and yet, hatred and war among the people to whom He brought peace and good will. Is there not a hungry feeling for the Prince of Peace to come again and begin it all over?

This cannot be. His work of redemption was finished. When He comes again, it will be in judgment. But we can hope, that after this malignant carbuncle of the sinpoisoned

blood of humanity, our Christian civilization will begin again back there, at the feet of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, the Saviour of His people. How shall we spend our Christmas? First of all with Him. It is His birthday. Began the day with Him, in the place where His lowliness and gentle meekness rebukes all pride, forbids all boasting, and soothes all frettings, and breathes sweet peace on troubled hearts. Let Him kindle the lamp of our inner life, then live the day, as in His sight, unto all glowing, to the dear ones in our home, and in our church, that He, may not be "wounded in the house of His friends."

We shall think with loving solicitation of our sailors on the sea and of our soldiers on the land. We shall speak to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, in behalf of our soldiers at the front and in the trenches. Some one has said—"The trenches in Europe are gashes in the heart of Christ."

But the Angel's song has not ended. It still floats o'er the babel sounds of earth. It prophesies "Peace on earth, good will to men, and glory to God."

This is the Father's plan. It must come true. The plan is righteous-

ness first then peace. His peace. Not brought about by Rome's deadly bondage; not by any proscribed pleasure-loving system of religion having a show of godliness, but denying the power thereof; nor will it be brought about by Europe's ghastly demonstration of military power but by the preaching and acceptance of the principles of the gospel, of the King of Righteousness and Prince of Peace.

While we pray for our beloved King George, his government, his soldiers and sailors and his empire, we shall remember that every human life needs, and may share the boundless grace and love of God.

And so, we'll keep our Christmas with ears and hearts open to the message from the City of Salem. That above the battle roar, we may, in the sweet cadence of angel voices hear "Fear not!" "Glory!" "Good-will!" "Peace!"

And in the spell, and passion of the sacrificial love of Jesus, we wish for everyone a Christmas of Heaven-born Peace.

Two Runaways

A horse ran away yesterday afternoon and found its way to the G.T.R. depot. The animal and outfit were claimed. No damage had been done.

Last night an exciting runaway took place on Mill Street, the horse plunging its way up towards the G. T. R. depot. By the time the station was reached the animal was under control.

RITCHIE'S

SALE OF LADIES' WINTER COATS

Absolute Clearance

OF ALL OUR LADIES'

Black and Colored Coat

There are still many handsome up-to-the-minute Winter Coats now showing but every garment reduced to either of the below low prices and every one spells a remarkable bargain at the sale price. All strictly new models in first class materials and best shades, including Black. See Window



EVERY COAT IN STOCK REDUCED IN PRICE

Coats that were \$22 to \$35 reduced to

\$18.75

Coats that were \$16.50 to \$20.00 reduced to

\$14.75

Coats that were reg. \$15, reduced to

\$12.75

Coats that were reg. to \$12.50 reduced to

\$9.75



MISSES COLORED COATS \$6.75

There are about 15 high grade garments to clear at this price for ages 12 and 14 yrs. All very attractive Coat models of splendid quality Tweeds, Chinchillas, and Blanket Cloths, well lined and regularly sold as high as \$9.50. Your choice while they last this week.

\$6.75

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