

Russians Soldiers Appear Off Varna No Attempt Made To Rush Saloniki Mrs. Asquith Prosecuting London Globe

LAST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL FOR YEAR 1915

Wound Up Business in Quiet, Business-Like Meeting.

MAYOR SPENCE ON FINANCES

Outlined Several Obligations City Must Soon Assume.

Explained Trouble Caused by Pumps at Waterworks.

The last meeting of the Council of 1915 and the last meeting Mr. J. H. Spence as Mayor, will have the privilege of presiding over was held last night, business being finished up by 9:45. Nothing very startling was brought up, merely winding up the season's affairs. Naturally, finance and figures loomed up largely but the council's record on expenditure can best be summed up in the Mayor's own words: "Every committee has kept well within its appropriations and the council of 1915 deserves all kinds of credit for keeping down the expenditures within their control."

BULGARS AND GREEKS CLASHED AT EPIRUS BUT OTHERWISE NO ADVANCE

No Indication of an Advance by Central Powers Against Creeks or Allies - Greece Not Likely to Interfere.

London, Dec. 21.—The Albanian port of Durazzo is said to be the latest objective of the Teutonic-Bulgarian campaign in the Balkans. Strong forces are believed to be marching across Albania in an effort to forestall Italian occupation of the coast. In the meantime there is no indication of the development by the Central powers of an offensive against the allies in Macedonia. On the contrary, it is reported the Bulgarians are entrenching themselves along the Serbo-Grecian border. The first concrete evidence of friction between Greeks and Bulgarians came from Epirus, where a Bulgarian band and Greek forces, according to press despatches, have come in conflict. If an offensive movement towards Saloniki is undertaken, it is hardly likely Greece will interfere as she likely will gain the same facilities to the Central Powers as she accorded the Entente Allies, that is if the present German, Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish are concentrating troops along the front of Greece's Macedonian border, the Entente allies are ceaselessly debarking men and munitions at Saloniki. Several months will be necessary, however, before they can hope to undertake an offensive movement on a scale which could possibly succeed. Paris reports Germany is preparing two gigantic strokes, one against Saloniki and the other toward Egypt, in the hope of ending the war by smashing blows, at these vital strategic points. German guns are busy along the western front but no further evidence has been received of an offensive there. In an effort to prevent aerial reconnaissance, according to a British official report, the Germans sent up squadrons of aeroplanes, resulting in 44 conflicts in the air with the loss of two aeroplanes by the Germans and one by the British. Along the French front an incessant fire against the Germans is being kept up. The British public is awaiting with intense interest details of the withdrawal of the army from the Suvle Bay and Anzac districts of Gallipoli peninsula. Newspaper comment shows mingled feelings of regret and relief. This feeling of relief reflects the attitude of the British public toward the whole near eastern venture and confidence is increasing here that the fortunes of the allies in this region have reached the lowest point which will begin to rise.

RUSSIAN TROOPS HAVE ARRIVED OFF VARNA

Berlin Admits Muscovites Attempting Bulgar Invasion.

GREEK PROTESTS OF NO AVAIL

Teutons, Turks and Bulgarians Will Attack Saloniki.

Bulgarians Seized Flour in American Hospital at Monastir.

London, Dec. 21.—Arrival of a Russian expedition off the Bulgarian coast is reported by the Athens correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company. He says: "A Russian cruiser and two destroyers, which are conveying sixteen transports filled with troops, have arrived off the Bulgarian coast, and are bombarding Varna vigorously." The Bulgarian port of Varna, is on the Black Sea, a few miles south of the Roumanian border. It is a railroad terminus. This city and Burgas, 50 miles farther south, are the principal Bulgarian Black Sea ports. On several occasions, since the beginning of the Teutonic drive through Serbia, it has been reported that the Russians would attempt an invasion of Bulgaria from the sea, and it has been said forces were being concentrated for this purpose at Odessa. Previous despatches reporting Russian naval operations in the Black Sea, Varna or Burgas, presumably preparatory to an effort to land troops, were not borne out subsequently. PROTEST NO GOOD London, Dec. 21.—Telegraphing from Saloniki, the Daily Mail's correspondent says: "Everything points to the belief that despite Greece's protests, the Austro-Germans, Turks and Bulgarians will cross the Greek frontier directly they are ready. It is reliably reported that the Turks have concentrated two divisions with cavalry and artillery close to the Greek frontier at Nevrokop and Kustendil." LEARNING FROM THEIR MASTER London, Dec. 21.—In extension of their conduct in seizing a large quantity of flour in American Red Cross hospital at Monastir, which was being used to feed the civilian population of Monastir, the Bulgarian officers responsible for the alleged outrage say that the step was taken because on their arrival at Monastir, which Bulgarians were so short of bread that the men's daily rations had been reduced to half a loaf, says the Times' Saloniki correspondent. The correspondent adds that Dr. Forbes of the Red Cross and Mrs. Walter Farwell, wife of an American newspaperman, were refused permission to leave Monastir for Greece after the attack on the hospital, and that the matter has been referred to the American government. Dr. Edward Stuart of Boston, a member of the American sanitary commission, which has been working recently in Serbia, according to the correspondent, notified the American consul in Saloniki of the attack, which occurred on December 9. The Bulgarian military authorities demanded that 25 carloads of flour, which the American Red Cross was distributing to civilians, should be sold to them, and when the Americans declined to acquiesce, they threatened to forcibly seize the flour which they afterwards did, first tearing down the American flag over the building. One of the Bulgarian officers struck Dr. Forbes with the flat of his sword, and the soldiers destroyed a camera which Mrs. Farwell was taking photos of the scene. When Dr. Forbes had been overcome by the soldiers, seals were placed on the building and sentries were set to guard it. DISCONTENTED WITH HUNS Paris, Dec. 21.—A Rome despatch reports that the discontent with the German officers' arrogance is increasing in the Bulgarian army. Near Strumitza a Bulgarian soldier fired three revolver shots at Theodoroff (Bulgarian). He missed the aim, but killed the general's aide de camp. The soldier was hanged.

MRS. ASQUITH VERSUS THE GLOBE CASE, IS ON AGAIN TO-DAY IN LONDON

Counsel for Plaintiff Asserts Persistent Rumors of His Client's—Disloyalty Had Been Circulated.

London, Dec. 21.—The case of Mrs. Herbert H. Asquith, wife of the premier, against The Globe, was resumed in Chancery Court to-day, having been continued from last Friday. The court granted Mrs. Asquith the injunction she asked to restrain The Globe from the publication of articles which she alleged are libelous. At the hearing last week counsel for Mrs. Asquith said she had been accused by the Globe of disloyalty and of association with German prisoners, and had been described as a traitor and a disgrace to her sex. Attorney Duke, counsel for Mrs. Asquith complained that there had been persistent circulation of reports attributing to her disloyalty to the national cause and her association with prisoners of hostile belligerents. He read a series of letters that had appeared in The Globe which without the naming of the plaintiff contained expressions as "She is a disgrace to England." "We know now why so many 'boches' are allowed to be at large." "Truly the country is in the hands of 'boches.'" "We don't want traitors in our innermost councils." The attorney declared the attack was most outrageous and of most serious public gravity. It was designed to strike at the confidence of the country in the government and inspire outsiders with the opinion that Great Britain's foes might hope to prevail, he added. The whole business constituted a long series of malevolent fabrications, he asserted. The attorney read an affidavit by Mrs. Asquith stating that never in her life had she been in Donnington Hall and there was not the slightest ground for the suggestion that she had ever supplied anything to its inmates. She had no doubt that the publications referred to her. A friend had spoken to her on the subject and she had received grossly abusive and insulting letters. Counsel for the Globe expressed regret and apologized in behalf of the publishers, attributing the publication of the letters to disorganization, resulting from the recent suspension of the paper, and the court granted the injunction.

COMPARISON BETWEEN ROADS VERY MARKED

What Municipal Line to Galt Looks Like Alongside L. E. & N.

CITIZENS TOOK TRIP YESTERDAY

Shown Cars of New Road at Preston by L. E. & N. Manager.

Three Cars in Brantford Next Week, Announced Mr. Todd.

By invitation of the three Railway Commissioners, Messrs. Hartman Bunnell and Turnbull, a number of citizens yesterday afternoon took a trip over the municipal railway line. The participants left on a special car at 1 p.m., and those in attendance included aldermen, members of the Trades and Labor Council and representatives of various other interests. The run to Paris was made in very good time, as the roadbed has been very much improved since the enterprise passed into the hands of the municipality. From Paris to Galt it was a different story. The line has heavy grades and many curves, and only a slow pace could be maintained. The car also swayed considerably. Beyond Paris a stop was made at the "gravel pit," which very largely consists of stones. In the quite continuous view of the line, after Paris is passed, the track of the Lake Erie and Northern can be seen. The Grand Valley rails are situated on the top of the Grand river embankment. Those of the L. E. and N. run below alongside the river, and it could readily be seen that a very level track had been laid, and that the roadbed and overhead equipment are of the very best. CARS OF THE NEW ROAD SEEN. On arrival at Galt, Mr. Todd, General Manager of the L. E. and N. met the party, and they were transferred to a special Galt car and taken to the establishment of the Preston Car and Coach Company, where they saw the cars which are to be used on the new road. They are eight in number, inclusive of baggage cars, and cost something over \$5,000 apiece or about \$125,000 in all. They are of beautiful finish and workmanship, and contain all the latest modern devices with vestibuled ends. They are very solidly built, consisting of steel up to the base of the windows, and each has lavatory accommodation. No better equipment could be found anywhere. The visitors were also shown one of the Baldwin Westinghouse electric engines, which will be used in the haulage of freight. They are of 60 tons weight, cost \$27,800 apiece, and haul 800 tons at 24 miles an hour. One of them will be of high speed for special runs. All the arrangements in connection with the road and its outfitting were seen to be of the very best, and Mr. Todd announced that it was expected to make the run from Galt to Brantford in 45 minutes. The time consumed by the municipal road between these two points, it may be remarked is one hour and twenty minutes. The most casual observer could not have failed to be thoroughly impressed with the fact that the competition of the L. E. and N. cars alongside those of the Grand Valley would be like putting a jolting buggy alongside of a smooth running automobile. However, Mr. Hartman and some others along, his was of thinking still expressed the view that the municipal road at comparatively small expense could be improved with enough of the elixir of life to do the trick. MR. TODD INTERVIEWED. When questioned Mr. Todd said he expected to have three cars in Brantford next week. They were only waiting for the power. He stated that he would be glad to have the ladies of Brantford serve tea in them, the proceeds to go to the hospital or some patriotic purpose. Such an exhibition for a day or so would enable citizens to see the kind of equipment they had. He further stated that a regular one hour service from Galt to Brantford would be commenced shortly after the New Year and that in six weeks he expected to have cars running to Simcoe through Mt. Pleasant, Wiltonville, Oakland and Waterloo. Before spring the Port Dover line would be

LOOKING INTO PEACE COUNCIL OF LABOR

Grand Juries Investigating Its Working in New York, Also Conspiracy to Blow Up Welland Canal.

New York, Dec. 21.—Two federal grand juries are investigating to-day the alleged plot to blow up the Welland Canal, and the activities of the Labor's National Peace Council in instigating strikes in war munition factories. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, who testified yesterday in the case of the Labor Council, is under subpoena for further appearance before the grand jury with Frank Morrison, secretary of the federation. It was reported to-day that inquiry into the Welland Canal conspiracy has shown that Paul Koenig, who is under arrest as the chief conspirator, was watched by secret service agents on frequent trips to Washington, and that he carried to that city suits cases or trunks containing documents and delivered them to persons in that city. As illustrating the ramifications of the federal investigation here it was said that the government agents are collecting evidence regarding alleged plots to blow up power houses on both the Canadian and American sides of the Niagara River at Niagara Falls and to destroy the Michigan Central and Grand Trunk international bridges there. Snowden H. Marshall, United States district attorney to-day received evidence concerning an effort to ship rubber, a contraband of war, from New York to Germany. The facts in this case came to light when the neutrality squad of the customs service seized four trunks and eight packing cases containing about 3,500 pounds of rubber. All these trunks and cases have been checked as the personal baggage of a woman, who was booked to sail for Rotterdam on the Holland-American Liner Rydam on November 27. Exportation of goods for commercial purposes without notifying the customs authorities is a violation of the federal statutes.

TAKING A VOTE ON CONCESSIONS ASKED

Employees of 458 Railroads in the United States to Vote on Whether They Want Certain Privileges.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Presidents of the four Brotherhoods of Railway Trainmen started work to-day preparing the ballot that is to be sent to the 400,000 employees of the 458 railroads in the United States asking for the following concessions: "An eight hour day with the same wages now paid for working ten hours. Time and one-half for working overtime. These demands completed here last night by officials of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers and Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, will be mailed to every member of the four organizations on January 1, it was announced. It will be given sixty days in which to vote and return their ballots. After all ballots have been returned, officials of the four organizations will meet in Chicago, probably in April to agree on a date for presenting the result of the vote to the railroads.

PTE. RAY, CRAIG FALLS IN ACTION AT THE FRONT

Sad News Received Yesterday That Death Came on Dec. 1st.

On Saturday morning the personal belongings of Private Ray Craig, signaller with the front, arrived at the residence of his mother, 11 Balfour street. Yesterday morning came the official announcement of his death having been killed in action on Dec. 1st, at the front. The late Private Ray Craig lived with his mother at 11 Balfour street and for some time prior to enlisting, had worked with the Street Railway Co. here. He was 22 years of age and unmarried. He has one sister in the city, one in the township and three living in the United States. He had no brothers. His father is dead.

4TH BATTALION ON DUTY NOW FOR 10 MONTHS

Stories of It Being on Furlough Can Be Denied.

The following letter from Corporal R. Cross tells of the long grind the 4th Battalion has gone through since arriving in France. To the Editor of Courier: Many thanks for copy of Courier safely to hand, but why address me as 4th Can. Bn. Shorncliffe, England? I would like to state that this Battalion has never been to Shorncliffe, except isolated cases of wounded men. The Battalion has the proud record of having held the front line of trenches for nearly 10 months, ever since we came to the Continent, and all rumors of the battalion being on furlough is nonsense. I trust you will note this fact to save further confusion. Again thanking you, believe me, Yours sincerely, R. CROSS. Late 38th Regt., on active service in Flanders.

Trust the License Board.

Trust the Ontario License Board. The liquor question has been taken out of politics and the hotels are now under the control of an independent board of strong temperance leanings. The interests of the ratepayers of Brantford are safe in its hands.—Adv.

The Boy and the Bar!

Do you want that boy of yours hanging over a local option bar until midnight drinking local option beer? He can't get into the licensed bar.—Adv.

General Ruszky Has Retired

Russian Commander on North Relieved Because of Ill-Health.

London, Dec. 21.—A Petrograd News Agency despatch says that an Imperial ukase relieves General Ruszky from command of the Russian army on the northern front, but continues him as a member of the council of the Empire and of the supreme military council. A message from Petrograd to Reuters' Telegram Company says: "The reason for General Ruszky's removal is contained in an imperial rescript in which the emperor commended the great work done by the retiring general and said that the difficult task of defending the capital had seriously injured General Ruszky's health, which demanded a rest. He thanked General Ruszky for the brilliant results obtained and said that he hoped soon to see him again at the head of his troops."

Prussian Losses Total Millions

London, Dec. 21.—According to the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, the Prussian lists of losses numbers 290 to 399 contain 42825 names, making the total Prussian losses 2,237,083. Says the Amsterdam correspondent of Reuters' Telegram Company. He continues: "There are besides, 234 Saxonian, 315 Wurtembergian and 240 Bavarian lists, 50 from the navy and some lists of German officers and non-commissioned officers in the Turkish army. The paper adds that the lists are published in the form of small newspapers and comprise 10,610 small printed pages. Printed as a book they would form 45,000 pages, or 100 volumes of 450 pages each."

When the Hotels Are Closed

As they will be if local option carries, how many conventions will come to Brantford when it cannot provide accommodation for their delegates?—Adv.

No Word From the Trenches

Although there has been abundant time for such a protest to be entered, no word has been received from any Brantford soldier now overseas protesting against a local option by-law being submitted to the electors in his absence. It is the stay-at-home shirker and not the Bloxhams who do not wish to be deprived of their liberty (?)—Adv.

That China acted wisely in deciding to return to a monarchical form of government was the opinion expressed by Baron Shibusawa, the Japanese banker, who is at San Francisco.

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WOODS Brantford Neighbors Build Up the Follow. CAN SUPPLY THE Portland Cement used by the Cement Company Brantford. PRINTING JOB DEPT. troops, and at the & ly Office. ND" ENT tes body. They h Delicacies of Candies COLATES some "Dan. NE et Street tes s Boys or ating sup- SE. and in the ELL Phone 148 ADS.