

The Evening Times Star

VOL. X. No. 72

ST. JOHN N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1914

TEN PAGES—ONE CENT

British and French Take Village; Allies Have Another Day of Progress

Some Excellent Gains Reported—Fighting in Poland Even More Desperate Than in West and Hard to Say Which Side Has Advantage

Paris, Dec. 23—2.25 p. m.—The French War Office this afternoon reported: "Yesterday in Belgium, we made slight progress between the sea and the dunes from Nieupoort to Westende as well as in the region between Steenwade and Bisschoote, where we occupied a forest, some houses and a redoubt on the east of Bethune, working in conjunction with the British army, we captured the village of Givenchy-Les-La Lasse.

"In the region of Arras, a heavy fog made it necessary for both the enemy and ourselves to lessen our activities. "To the east of Amiens, on the Aisne, and in Champagne, there have been heavy engagements.

"In the region of Perthes-Les-Hurlus we carried, after a spirited cannonade and two assaults, the last section of the line which we occupied in part on Dec. 22. We made an average gain of 800 yards. In the last trench which we are now possessing, we captured a section of machine guns including the crews. A violent counter attack was repulsed.

"We also made progress to the northwest of Beausejour, where further attacks on the part of the enemy were without success.

"There has been a perceptible advance on the part of our troops in the west of La Grutte against a front of trenches 400 yards wide, and running not more than 250 yards deep. We blew up with mines two of these German lines works and occupied the excavations.

"The fighting is going on in the vicinity of Bourledille, with the outcome very serious. It would appear not to have been possible to retain entirely the positions acquired yesterday morning.

"There has been no incident from the heights of the Meuse to upper Alsace.

THE EASTERN FRONT "Russia—In East Prussia, the Germans have been driven back on the line from Neidenburg to Soldau to Lautenburg. In Poland the Germans were successful in getting a footing on the lower Bzura, to the north of Sochazew. Far to the south, they reached the Rawka River at Bolimow, and they have used Skierniewice moving to the east.

"Austro-German forces are moving into Poland along a front which runs from a point to the southeast of Piotrkow to the west of the River Nida, in Silesia. They have reached the river Dunajek, and they occupy a line from 'how to Smigrod to Sanok."

"The effort at a sortie made by the Przmysl garrison resulted in complete failure.

ILL TRY TO GET THROUGH. London, Dec. 23—The Daily Mail's Petrograd correspondent telegraphs: "Only one of three sides of a square on which the Germans were attacking the Russians, a few days ago, is being assaulted. This is on the line before Rasow, where the efforts of the enemy to pierce the Russian line of defence failed with unintermitted vigour.

"The Germans are keeping up a supply of troops where they are needed for the winter. It is now stated that the number of troops on the western front has been reduced, but that the places in the first line units are being filled by garrison and second line troops. If the Russians demand, which has been expected in order to hold back the torrent of Germans that is being poured into Warsaw, can resist the pressure the situation must improve."

JUST DESPERATE FIGHTING IS IN MID-WINTER CONDITIONS IN POLAND London, Dec. 23—The eighty mile front in Russian Poland to the west of Warsaw, where the Germans and Russians are at grips on the banks of the river, Rawka and Pilica Rivers, continues to be the scene of the most desperate fighting in either the eastern or western arena.

When the weather conditions are recalled, the sufferings of the men in the trenches may to some extent be appreciated. The country is experiencing the force of winter. Each side has sustained tremendous losses and although the Germans say that they have forced the Russian line at several points, it is a fact, according to reports reaching London, that the Russian front has not straightened out, and it is difficult to see which contender has the strategic advantage.

NEW MAGISTRATE AT FIRST COURT

L. A. Conlon Takes His Place on Bench in Fairville Court House

For the first time since his appointment to office, L. A. Conlon this morning presided as magistrate in the Fairville court. No formalities marked the



MAGISTRATE CONLON

occasion as there were only one or two civil cases to be dealt with, uncontested, and in which he gave judgment. He will continue to hold court on Wednesday mornings in civil cases while criminal matters will be dealt with as promptly as they arise.

Mr. Conlon, who will continue his private practice, has been receiving the hearty congratulations of many friends on his appointment.

MANY 'TURKS' FOR SOLDIERS' BIG DINNER

Bounteous Donations Come in for Christmas Treat—Furlough For Some of the Men

While about half the soldiers who have been on the service roll with the local units for home and foreign service will have the privilege of enjoying their Christmas dinner in their homes, those who remain on duty over the holiday will not be forgotten, but through the kindly efforts of the members of the Women's Canadian Club, assisted by friends, fine plump turkeys will grace the boards of the mess rooms on the festive day. This morning the residence of Mrs. H. A. Powell, 29 Queen Square, was one of the main delivery stops for grocers' and butchers' wagons, and turkey after turkey was handed over to the committee of women in charge of the arrangements for the soldiers' Christmas dinner.

Tomorrow the turkeys will be divided among units in proportion to the number of men to be cared for. The soldiers will call for the birds and they will take them to the cook-houses of the several corps, there to be made ready for the table.

The expectation had been that about 100 turkeys, averaging ten pounds each, would be secured, but from the generous response evidenced today it appeared that more than that number would be on hand. Many choice ones were received from people in the country districts. Puddings were also donated, as well as the various other dainties.

Leave of Absence Today marked the beginning of the leave of absence for the men on duty here, and the trains out of the city carried many lads happy in the thought of again being with their families for the Christmas holidays. They will report for duty again on Monday morning. The incoming trains brought home several young St. John men, who had left the city for preparatory training in Halifax and Fredericton, returning to the city for the holidays.

Cessation of Drill Naturally, with so many of the men off duty, there was today a lessening of the activities of drill and little will be done until after Christmas by the troops, except the necessary work in connection with their daily routine.

TIPS FOR FARMERS ON BANK BULLETIN BOARD Winnipeg, Dec. 23—Arrangements have been made by which each branch bank in Saskatchewan will be equipped with a bulletin board to be used by the government for the dissemination of information giving the farmers the benefit of the discoveries of the agricultural college.

FIRE THREATENS TO DESTROY THE TOWN Portsmouth, Ohio, Dec. 23—With four houses down, and ten buildings afloat, the town of Vanceburg, Ky., faces being wiped off the map by a fire which started early this morning in the opera house.

Christmas Lull in Fighting Is Possible

London Papers Will Not Be Published—Official News Bureau Closed From Afternoon of 24th Till Christmas Night

London, Dec. 23—It is believed that, notwithstanding the failure of the plan for an armistice over Christmas, some sort of a lull will set in on Christmas Day itself. Christmas sentiment is deep in the men's hearts, and their positions on the line of battle, facing each other, in bitter antagonism will not eradicate it. The London newspapers have decided unanimously not to publish on Christmas Day, and the official news bureau will suspend its activities from the afternoon of December 24, until the evening of December 25.

Thousands of tons of Christmas presents have been sent to all the fronts. The distribution and enjoyment of these gifts is another argument for the probable suspension of hostilities, wherever this is possible.

HEROIC BAND OF FRENCH IN MIDST OF GERMANS

GERMANS INVADE ANGOLA AGAIN

Announcement Made in Portuguese Parliament

Attack at Naulilla

Few Troops There and They Retire Until Reinforced—This is the Second German Invasion Though Berlin Denied the Fact

Lisbon, Dec. 23—The Germans have invaded Angola, Portuguese West Africa. This was announced in the chamber of deputies by the minister of colonies. He said the Germans had made a fresh attack on the military post at Naulilla.

The commander of the post, Colonel Roçadas had only a small force at his disposal, and retreated to obtain reinforcements with which to drive out the Germans.

The first invasion of Angola occurred late in October, according to reports from the commander of the post, when a small party of German cavalry arrived at Naulilla. In a light three German attacks were made, but they were repulsed. Berlin, however, has denied that such an incident occurred.

Reports from Lisbon show that 8,000 men were sent from Portugal to the West African colonies in September and October, and that in November, the country was preparing to send 4,000 additional troops there. The Portuguese army has been reinforced with 10,000 men, and Germany had armed great numbers of the natives and had placed them under the training of German officers for an invasion of Angola.

Deadlock Continues Lisbon, Dec. 23—The political deadlock continues. Premier Victor Coutinho, despite his defeat in the senate, which declared to give him a vote of confidence declares that he will remain in power so long as he has the confidence of the president of Portugal and the support of the democratic party. The chamber of deputies yesterday again voted confidence in the new ministry on motion of Dr. Alfonso Costa, a former premier of Portugal.

POLICE COURT The preliminary hearing in the case of breaking and entering the liquor store of Philip McGuire, in Mill street, and stealing liquor and some \$8, was continued in the police court this morning.

A boy named Moore said that the defendant, Carl Kemp, called at his home in Pond street, and made enquiries about the Christmas holidays. Kemp then asked if he would show him where the house was situated. He was going to bed at the time, but dressed and went with Kemp. When they arrived at the house they found that the boy wanted was asleep, so they went to the corner of Mill and George streets and there came upon a soldier. He said that Kemp asked the soldier if he "was wise to the job" and the latter answered "No! After some explanations he said they went to McGuire's liquor store, where Kemp crawled through a hole in the front plate glass window. While he was in the window he saw Kemp take some money out of one of the cash registers, after which he passed out several bottles of liquor to the soldier.

All three then went to the rear of a building off North street, where he received two bottles of liquor from Kemp. After being warned by the latter not to mention anything about the affair he went home. He said he gave the liquor to his uncle.

Three persons were fined \$8 and two months in jail with hard labor for drunkenness. Ida Street, who was arrested on a charge of keeping a disorderly house in St. James street, was brought before Magistrate Ritchie and pleaded not guilty. She was remanded.

TURKS THREATEN A MASSACRE OF CHRISTIANS Naples, via Rome, Dec. 23—The officers of the steamer Capri, here from the Red Sea, describe the situation at Hodeida, Arabia, as very grave, especially for English and French.

The French consul has been seized by the Turks, and the Italian consul would be threatened to bombard the town. The Turkish governor replied that the first shot fired by the ship would be the signal for a slaughter of Europeans.

Careful With The Flour Is The Order From Berlin; Empire Steering Towards Starvation

Increasing Dissatisfaction Among Bavarians Another of Kaiser's Troubles—Believe He Has Deceived King Ludwig and Threaten Resentment

New York, Dec. 23—A Herald special cable from Amsterdam says: "No Christmas cakes for the Germans is the tenor of the melancholy message which Germany received this morning, when all the general commands, acting under special orders from Berlin, issued proclamations ordering that flour, especially for Christmas cakes, be used with the utmost economy.

"It is clear from the proclamations issued that the question of food is greatly worrying the German authorities who clearly perceive that the empire is steering toward starvation.

"From Munich increasing dissatisfaction among the Bavarian troops is learned. They contend that they are not getting proper recognition for the sacrifices they have made. The feeling is spreading quickly throughout Bavaria, that King Ludwig has been deceived by the Kaiser, and that Bavaria is now engaged in a war which can bring no profit to the kingdom, whatever may be the outcome, while in case of Germany's victory the Prussians will reap all the profit and honor, notwithstanding that the Bavarians have sacrificed, proportionately, three times more men and money than Prussia.

"The Bavarians now also are beginning to inquire what the war is about and are angry at the Kaiser's ambition, which is simply ruining the Bavarian finances, while crippling the army. This feeling, if not speedily counteracted, may possibly lead to the formation of a union of the south German states as a counterpoise to the all-Prussian tendencies prevalent at Berlin.

SERVIAN VICTORY OVER AUSTRIANS GREATER EVEN THAN REPORTED

Enormous Quantity of War Material Captured and More Than 42,000 Prisoners Taken—Russia Jubilant Over It

London, Dec. 23—The Morning Post's correspondent at Petrograd telegraphs: "There is great rejoicing in Russia over the Serbian rout of the Austrian armies, which is more complete than was supposed. According to figures received here from perfectly trustworthy sources the Serbians took 280 officers and more than 42,000 men as prisoners. They captured three standards, 236 guns, 862 ammunition carts, seventy Maxim's, about 2,000 carts of a supply train, 2,000 horses, thirty-two field kitchens, thirty-four field bakeries, three military bands, an enormous number of rifles, quantities of military stores and every species of war material."

New York, Dec. 23—A cable to the Tribune from Petrograd says: The Austrian press is using every device to control the public knowledge of the disaster to the armies that invaded Serbia. One of the immediate results of the defeat is to rob Austria-Hungary of all the benefits of her loan of \$28,000,000 contracted from the United States some time ago. The Austrian government still has in its hands \$12,000,000 of this paper which she has never been able to place.

CHRISTMAS DAY ON THE ICE OF THISTLE RINK

Those Who Will Take Part in the President vs. Vice-President Match

The members of the Thistle Curling Club are looking forward to the match game on Christmas Day between rinks under the leadership of the president and vice-president respectively. The match is always keenly contested and a good day's enjoyment is anticipated. The following is a list of the rinks and the skips in charge:

Table listing names and roles for the President vs. Vice-President match, including names like Fred Parker, L. B. Thier, A. G. McMullin, etc.

PROMPT RESPONSE BRINGS CHRISTMAS JOY TO SOME OF THE LITTLE BILLYS

The Times yesterday contained some verses touching the needs of certain little Billys and their sisters in St. John who should be remembered at Christmas time. Last evening the author of the lines received a telephone message telling of a suit of new clothes for a little boy that was at his disposal. Later another message told of a check for \$20 that would be available today for little Billys who might be in need. This morning came another check for \$10. The donors of these gifts have paved the way for a happy Christmas for some little people who otherwise would find it far less enjoyable. On their behalf the author of the verse extends thanks, knowing, however, that it is also a source of great happiness to the givers that they can thus bring brightness into other lives in this testing time of the great heart of humanity.

THE PROHIBITION FIGHT

Washington, Dec. 23—Opponents of prohibition in congress already are confidently predicting today that the house defeat of the Hobson resolution to submit a constitutional amendment for national prohibition to the state legislatures meant that the issue was dead, so far as action at this session is concerned. On the other hand, prohibition leaders were triumphantly pointing to their majority of eight votes for the resolution and although it failed to receive the two-thirds vote necessary to adoption, asserted that their expectations had been fulfilled. They declared that despite their temporary defeat, they would continue to fight.

Walter Barnes T. A. Linton J. M. Pendrick D. Cameron F. J. Likely J. A. Sinclair D. McClelland J. Mitchell J. S. Malcom A. D. Malcom

H. G. Younelause L. O. Bentley L. P. Lingley H. W. Stubbs Rev. W. O. Raymond Dr. Warwick Col. T. L. McAvity W. J. Currie J. S. Malcom A. D. Malcom

Dr. Currie J. B. Patchell E. P. Howard J. A. Lilely J. B. McPherson Wm. Rivers W. A. Shaw W. Demming Dr. F. C. Bonnell A. B. Holly F. Shaw J. W. Cameron G. A. Stubbs W. H. Mowatt R. M. Fowler Dr. D. C. Malcolm H. G. Barnes L. A. Langstroth W. J. S. Myles

Dr. Sawaya Fred Parker H. C. Green L. B. Thier J. W. Stally F. E. Burpee R. S. Orchard G. L. Warwick R. McKendrick R. Arscot L. P. D. Tilly A. J. Machum D. R. Willett I. F. Archibald W. R. Belyea W. B. Robertson R. E. Crawford H. McAlpine W. J. Brown S. W. Palmer F. A. McAndrews D. Currie J. B. Patchell E. P. Howard J. A. Lilely J. B. McPherson Wm. Rivers W. A. Shaw W. Demming Dr. F. C. Bonnell A. B. Holly F. Shaw J. W. Cameron G. A. Stubbs W. H. Mowatt R. M. Fowler Dr. D. C. Malcolm H. G. Barnes L. A. Langstroth W. J. S. Myles

H. Warwick C. A. Robinson T. H. Belyea A. Estey E. S. R. Murray Dr. Rowley J. C. Chesley A. W. Sharpe

Ingenuous Scheme To Tear Down German Barbed Wire Barriers London, Dec. 23—The Daily News publishes the following dispatch from a correspondent in Paris: "I was talking last night with a group of soldiers from the front, and in the course of their stories of life in the trenches, one of them told me of an ingenious device they have for tearing down the German barbed wire entanglements. There are hundreds of miles of these barriers in front of the German trenches in France and Belgium. They bring the most impetuous bayonet charges to a standstill until a way is cut through them. Now, I am told, the army is experimenting with an appliance similar to a rocket apparatus, which throws a grappling iron attached to a rope over entanglements, which are then dragged down and hauled into our trenches."

WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, H. E. Star part, director of meteorological service.

STOCKHOLDERS IN NEW BRUNSWICK INTERESTED Arrangement of British Colonial and Central Canada Fire Insurance Companies

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