

## PLOTTED ALLIANCE AGAINST AMERICA

Germans Induce Argentine  
President to Approach  
Chile and Peru.

### USED SECRET WIRE

Secretary Lansing Discloses  
Further Evidence of Ger-  
man Intrigue.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Thru a long series of telegrams exchanged between the notorious Count Loxburg, former German charge in Argentina, and the Berlin foreign office, the state department tonight disclosed further facts about German diplomatic trickery and at the same time shed light upon some hitherto unexplained activities of certain Latin-American statesmen.

Luxburg, in one of his messages, dated August 1 last, reported that President Latorre of Argentina at that time had made up his mind to conclude a secret agreement with Chile and Bolivia for protection against North America "before the conference idea is taken up again." The "conference idea" is assumed to have been the plan for a Latin-American neutrality conference, strongly supported by President Carranza of Mexico, while the proposed secret agreement may explain reports that have come from Buenos Aires recently, of President Latorre's proposals for a league of South American nations.

To Extend War.  
In Latin-American diplomatic circles here it is asserted the despatches will result in a declaration of war against Germany. The Argentine congress and many of the people favored this step when the American Government made public the "pink without trace" messages by Von Loxburg. The messages given out today were made public by the state department in agreement with the Argentine Government, which, in an accompanying statement, by its foreign minister, says the "inaccuracies" of the despatches are so prominent that no epithet will fit them.

The messages were sent to Argentina soon after the state department gave out the first batch.

The first of Loxburg's intercepted telegrams were transmitted to Berlin by the Swedish legation at Buenos Aires, and publication of that fact by Secretary Lansing not only threw Argentina into a turmoil, resulting in the dismissal of the charge, but precipitated a crisis in Sweden. No explanation is given of the means by which the later messages were sent, the one or two of the telegrams in today's batch were among those given out previously. The famous "spurious Yarenski" in which Loxburg recommended avoiding difficulty with Argentina by sinking her ships without leaving a trace, however, does not appear in this time.

All of the correspondence was explained during July, August and early September, and most of it deals with the negotiations then in progress regarding the sinking of Argentine ships by German submarines.

### ships by German submarines.

Argentina's Weakness.  
The secret reports now reveal that Argentina on its side was to keep its ships out of danger by not allowing them to sail for the war zone, an easy task in view of the fact that she had almost the message Loxburg dwells on his difficulties with the foreign minister and on his influence with the president. Finally he was guided directly with the president, altho the foreign minister's attitude made this troublesome. How far President Latorre's projects for an anti-North American alliance have proceeded the correspondence does not develop.

In the concluding telegram of the series, Luxburg, addressing an unnamed person in Santiago, Chile, probably the German minister there, says that as long as Chile is neutral Germany after the war will be able to carry out her South American policy just as well if not more easily in opposition to an "infatuated" Argentina as with Argentina on her side. This apparently was written when the likelihood of a rupture of relations with Germany was imminent.

Minister Neun had nothing further to say on the subject. He was advised of the purpose of the United States and his government to make the messages public here and at Buenos Aires simultaneously.

President Pliable.  
Evidence of the apparent pliability of the Argentine president and of the opposition of Minister of Foreign Affairs Pureseydon, is disclosed in many of the despatches. Frequent reference is made by the charge to difficulty he was having in dealing with the foreign minister, but emphasis is placed upon the ease with which he communicated with the president.

In a statement accompanying the telegrams the Argentine foreign minister announced that there were three messages not published as they related solely to Chile and Uruguay. They have been delivered to those governments.

An indication of the means used by Count Loxburg to evade detection in communicating with his government is found in one despatch where reference is made to his fear that the "secret wire" had been discovered. Another refers to an interruption of his wire to Mexico.

Opportune Disclosures.  
Disclosure of more of the sensational Loxburg telegrams, which are expected to lay bare more evidence of German diplomat's duplicity, comes at a most interesting time, especially as it is being done by agreement with the Argentine Government.

How the public mind in Argentina, already pressing President Latorre to go to war with Germany, will regard further exposures of German intrigue, is of no less interest to officials here than it is its probable effect on the general Latin-American attitude toward a so-called neutrality conference just called at Buenos Aires, to attend which Luis Cabrera, Mexico's representative, unceremoniously left the United States recently while this government was waiting to begin negotiations over food exports to Mexico.

While public sentiment for entering the war on the side of the United States and the allies has been spreading thru all Latin-America, the conspicuous examples of inaction have been the governments of Mexico and Argentina. The sudden visit of Cabrera at this juncture to a so-called neutrality conference in Buenos Aires excited much speculation.

Whether there can be any connection between the new Loxburg exposures and the relations between Mexico and Argentina excites much more.

Translations of the despatches were given out by the state department in agreement with the Argentine minister of foreign affairs, who in an accompanying statement, gave general denial to Loxburg's account of the negotiations with his government.

Surprising.  
"The telegrams show a number of inaccuracies so surprising that no epithet will fit them," said the foreign minister's statement. They are at complete variance, both in substance and form, with the terms in which the negotiations were entered into, carried on and brought to a conclusion.

The message referring to the South American alliance merely said that the president at last had made up his mind to conclude such an agreement with Chile and Bolivia, and there was nothing in the correspondence to clear up just what negotiations were carried on with those countries.

A telegram, dated July 20 last, announced the completion of a "wave plant" and asked for the wave length of the great wireless station at Nauzen.

The concluding message, dated July 19, said:  
"As long as Chile is neutral Germany will be able after the war to carry out her South American policy just as well, if not more easily, in opposition to an infatuated and misguided Argentina, as with Argentina on her side."

Argentine Statement.  
Following is the statement of the Argentine foreign minister of affairs given out with the Loxburg telegrams.

"The telegrams which appear below are all that the Argentine minister for foreign affairs received from the embassy in Washington, and the translations were made by the foreign affairs department in the United States. There are three telegrams not published, as they allude solely to the republics of Chile and Uruguay. The government has decided that it should not publish these telegrams, and has delivered them to the respective chancelleries."

The last telegram in the series is from Loxburg to an unnamed person at Santiago, Chile, probably the German minister there. It follows:  
"Buenos Aires to Santiago, Chile, July 19, 1917."

"Number 64. With reference to your postal cipher despatch No. 1780, I congratulate you on the solution arrived at. As long as Chile is neutral, Germany will be able, after the war, to carry out her South American policy just as well, if not more easily in opposition to an infatuated and misguided Argentina as with Argentina on her side. All sensible men here, even Seebalos, allow that Chile is obviously better governed than Argentina. Moreover, the situation here is by no means incapable of solution. The president has the firm intention of setting the council of ministers against North America. Use the above confidentially."

TWO GERMAN SUBS SUNK.  
Athens, Dec. 20.—French destroyers have sunk two enemy submarines in the Gulf of Taranto.

## THREATENS TO CAVE IN

Thaw Has Endangered the Walls of the Burned Market Hall.

Special to The Toronto World.  
Hamilton, Friday, Dec. 21.—Believing that the icicle later were pieces of the burned market hall would remain intact through the winter, the property and license committee planned to leave the ruins untouched until next year, but the thaw of the past two days has melted the ice which held the charred beams together and the mass of wreckage threatens to cave in at any moment. As a result the committee is now considering calling for tenders for the clearing up of the debris and hoping for a drop in the temperature.

## Brantford's Municipal Scheme

For Distribution of Coal

Special to The Toronto World.  
Brantford, Ont., Dec. 20.—It was announced today that by Monday next the innovation of a central municipal coal distributing office would be accomplished, and as a result of the negotiations with the dealers, and the manner in which the problem was being attacked, local authorities were optimistic of the success of the plan. Full control will be held by the advisory committee: Messrs. J. H. Spence, Logan Waterhouse, E. Levey, and Fred Mann, the latter appointed to represent the coal dealers.

Consumers will be required to pay five cents for an order on a dealer, the municipal office, probably being established in the city hall. The form to be filled out will require the consumer's signature that they have only supply for a certain number of days on hand, the number not yet being fixed.

## WRESTLING TOURNAMENT.

Result of Five Matches in Catch-as-catch-can Series.

New York, Dec. 20.—In the international catch-as-catch-can wrestling tournament here tonight, five finish matches were decided as follows: Hans Puerst of Switzerland threw Hines Assam of Cuba, 13 minutes, combination head lock and body hold; Yousoff Hussane, of the Balkans, defeated Charles Pospashil, 13 minutes 45 seconds, half nelson; Sula Hevonpan of Finland threw Henry Vogel of Saxony, 12 minutes, 47 seconds, body scissors; Dr. B. F. Rolmer of Serbia, 5 minutes, 37 seconds, arm scissors and arm lock (head hold barred).

## HOLSTEIN SALE A SUCCESS.

Special to The Toronto World.

Brantford, Dec. 19.—The sale here of thoroughbred Holstein stock, under the auspices of the Brantford District Holstein Breeders' Association, proved most successful, both in point of attendance and in the class of stock offered for sale. There was a big improvement in grade this year, and a corresponding increase in price generally. Some 44 head were disposed of, the total proceeds being \$8,150, or an average of \$185.54. The highest price of the day was \$205 and the lowest \$120. The average price for females was \$197. Two red cross calves brought \$25 each.

## ITALIAN SITUATION GROWS MORE SERIOUS

Austro-German Gains on Northern Front Menace Safety of Whole Front.

Italian Headquarters in Italy, Wednesday, Dec. 19.—The situation in the northern fighting zone, has assumed a more serious aspect with the enemy's occupation of Monte Asalone, whence there is a stretch of hills between him and the level plain. Monte Asalone is the last of the heights in that section with an altitude of more than 4000 feet, the remaining ones being good-sized hills, 2000 and 3000 feet high and snowless, except during a severe winter. This remaining stretch of hills is about seven miles across, with Bassano four miles further on.

The enemy's heavy guns already have the range beyond Bassano, near the entrance to the Brenta Valley, and while the city itself has not yet been shelled, occasional shells have fallen in the outskirts, and some have passed over the city to the suburbs beyond.

The reports show that the enemy is employing several divisions in his operations between the Brenta and Piave Rivers. Of these, six are certainly, and nine probably, German. Desperate who come in say that the enemy troops, besides the ones who are in the plain by the holidays, as they are strong in their desire to get down from the mountain heights before the hardships of winter set in.

Five different attempts to cross the old Piave near its mouth indicate that the enemy is adopting the plan of striking the two extremities of the line with the purpose of bending one or the other back on the centre.

The drive to Monte Asalone takes the enemy some distance south of the Italian allied positions on the upper Piave. The exact positions of the British and French forces cannot be stated, but, generally speaking, they are not at the extremities, and it appears to be part of the enemy's cunning to strike at the extremities, where the Italians are holding single-handed.

The place where the enemy gained a foothold, on the west bank of the old Piave, and was driven back to the water's edge, is the nearest point he has approached to Venice, but this is not regarded as a serious menace to the city, as the remaining stretch is a marsh of lagoons and the occupied point is within range of the warships off the mouth of the river.

## WOULD AVOID ELECTION

Movement in Brantford, But Contest for the Mayoralty is Assured.

Brantford, Ont., Dec. 20.—There is a movement on foot in municipal circles to avoid the annual aldermanic and ward contests, through the different wards this year, as being in line with war-time economy. Besides that, there will be four members of the board of education, one water, one hydro-electric and one street railway commissioner to be elected. Ald. Minshall was ready to take a hand in the majority and was being urged by friends to do so. Nominations take place on Monday, December 31.

## STORK MAY LOSE SEAT

Soldiers' Vote Will Make British Columbia Solid for Union.

Prince Rupert, B. C., Dec. 20.—A private cable message received here today from Vancouver by the Unionist campaign committee contains the information that when the soldier vote is counted Col. Beck, the Unionist candidate in Skeena constituency, will have a majority of approximately 1700 over Fred Stork, the Liberal candidate, who holds a lead of about 600 on the home vote.

## BRUGES WORKS ARE BOMBED.

London, Dec. 20.—A British official statement today says that naval aircraft dropped large quantities of explosives on works at Bruges Tuesday night, getting direct hits. Large fires resulted. One enemy machine was destroyed and another driven down. One British machine failed to return.

## BOGUS PRIEST SENTENCED.

Montreal, Dec. 20.—Solomon Daniels, bogus priest and confidence man, who obtained \$2000 in this city last spring by pretending to be a Syrian priest on a mission to Canada, that raise funds for a new church in Syria, was sentenced today in the court of special sessions to imprisonment for 18 months on charges of obtaining money by false pretences.

## PAPER LOSES LIBEL SUIT.

Montreal, Dec. 20.—L'Autorite, Limited, publishers of a French weekly newspaper in Montreal under the direction of Gaston Millet, are condemned by a judgment rendered by Justice Guerin in the superior court here today to pay \$8000 damages for publishing libelous statements about the board of governors of the College of Surgeon-Dentists in this city.

## DUKE OF CONNAUGHT ILL.

London, Dec. 20.—The Duke of Connaught is suffering from bronchial catarrh and his medical men have forbidden him fulfilling any public engagement necessitating his speaking or involving a violent change of temperature.

## BORDEN CONGRATULATED.

London, Dec. 20.—General Page Croft, M.P., sends the following to Borden: "The National party sends heartfelt congratulations to you and your Union government on your great victory for national unity. Canada has placed its national safety above party. We will do the same."

## CARD OF THANKS

The Rt. Hon. Sir George E. Foster, member-elect for the electoral district of North Toronto, instructs me to convey publicly an expression of his sincere thanks to the electors of his riding for the magnificent majority given him in the election on Monday, and especially does he desire to express his deep sense of gratitude to that large and splendid body of willing workers, both women and men, who have so loyally, zealously and effectively striven to ensure the success and return to power of the Union Government and so advance the cause of our brave boys at the front.

N. B. GASH, K.C.,

Official Agent for Sir George E. Foster.

Toronto, Dec. 20th, 1917.

## ESTABLISHED 1875 IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

CAPITAL PAID UP \$7,000,000 RESERVE FUND \$7,000,000  
PELEG HOWLAND, PRESIDENT. E. HAY, GENERAL MANAGER.

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17 Branches in Toronto

## GERMAN PARTIES TRY

RAIDS AGAINST BRITISH

Enemy Captures Advanced Post Near Messines—Foe Loses Prisoners.

London, Dec. 20.—The official report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters tonight says:  
"The enemy raided one of our posts early this morning northeast of Messines, and this afternoon under cover of fog succeeded in capturing one of our advanced posts east of Messines. Other hostile raiding parties attempted to approach our lines during the day northeast of Armentieres and north of the Iseron Road, but were driven off by our fire. We captured a few prisoners and a machine gun. A few other prisoners were taken and many casualties inflicted on the enemy in the course of patrol. Our own and the enemy's artillery was active today in the Bullecourt sector. The hostile artillery has shown increased activity southeast of Ypres."

## OTTAWA SITUATION

DULL AS THE WEATHER

No Western Ministers Back, and No Announcement Yet Regarding Cabinet Vacancies.

Special to The Toronto World.  
Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 20.—Ottawa, usually a city of sunshine, presents today rather a bedraggled appearance with a dull dripping rain and melting snow. The political situation was about as dull as the weather. None of the western ministers have yet returned, and most of the other members of the cabinet will be leaving soon for their Christmas holidays. Hon. N. W. Rowell is leaving tonight for Toronto.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was confined to the house today by a severe cold, but was able to carry on his correspondence and receive callers. He will go next week for a brief visit to Quebec. The prime minister may take a short vacation, leaving Ottawa probably the day after Christmas, but that will depend entirely on the pressure of public business.

No announcement is yet forthcoming regarding the cabinet vacancies. It is generally believed, however, that Senator Bolduc may succeed Mr. Severyn as minister of inland revenue, and that Col. Blondin will be succeeded as postmaster-general by some Unionist M.P. from Ontario.

## VETERANS TELL CURRIE

PRAYER IS ANSWERED

Loyal Canadians to Stand by Gallant Men Till Victory is Won.

Winnipeg, Dec. 20.—Army and navy veterans in Canada, thru their president, Lieut.-Col. G. F. Carruthers, tonight forwarded the following cable to General Sir Arthur Currie commanding the Canadian expeditionary forces at the front:  
"Canada has heard and answered your prayer from the front. The battlefields. Loyal Canadians, among whom army and navy veterans ever stand shoulder to shoulder, decided by tremendous majority, to stand by your gallant men till victory is achieved and enduring peace assured."

## TRAIL STRIKE OFF;

OLD BASIS PREVAILS

Fifteen Hundred Men Return to Work Today on Nine-hour Day Basis.

Trail, B.C., Dec. 20.—The strike at the Consolidated Company's Smelter was called off this afternoon at a mass meeting of strikers. Work will resume on the old basis of nine hours a day for the 450 mechanics, whose demand for eight hours brought about a strike of all the 1500 employees at the plant. It will take several weeks before the smelter is in full blast.

## WILL NOT RETRACT

Mayor Bowditch Cites Woman's Word in Support of Statement.

Special to The Toronto World.  
Brantford, Ont., Dec. 20.—Mayor Bowditch this morning replied to the request of J. H. Spence, president, and H. T. Watt, secretary-treasurer of the Brantford branch of the patriotic fund, demanding that he either furnish proof or retract his statement that the women had been told that if they did not vote for Cookshott their patriotic fund allowance would be cut off. In this he stated that a woman, with tears running down her cheeks, who had a husband and a son on the firing line, had stated to him that she was told that if she did not promise to vote for Cookshott she would get no more from the patriotic fund. Consequently he refused to either prove or retract the statement.

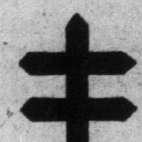
## NO BAN ON MEDICATED WINES.

Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 20.—Prohibition Commissioner W. C. Findlay was today enjoined by Chief Justice Hunter against placing any ban on the importation of medicated wines pending the result of an argument to be heard before his lordship on January 4. The injunction was issued in a suit which the Druggists' Sundries Company has started against Mr. Findlay.

## WILL SUBMIT BYLAW.

Special to The Toronto World.  
Oshawa, Dec. 20.—Oshawa Town Council last night decided to submit a bylaw to the citizens to vote the Oshawa Distillery Company, composed of Toronto business men, a fixed assessment of \$5000 per annum on the premises of the defunct Ontario Malt & Brew Co., for a period of ten years, with a cash bonus at the end of that time of \$10,000 should the company carry out all the undertakings.

At this Xmas Season do not forget  
the Needy Consumptive



OFFICE OF THE  
NATIONAL SANITARIUM ASSOCIATION  
223 COLLEGE STREET

Toronto, December, 21st, 1917

To Our Friends,—

For the past twenty-one years we have been carrying on our fight against the Great White Plague. During this time over 11,000 patients — a whole city full — have received treatment and care in our Hospitals in Muskoka and those near Weston.

Never before have we had so many difficult problems to face; with the soaring prices of food and other needed supplies, our task in these dark days of war has indeed been a difficult one.

We know what your answer would be to any proposal to economize in food and medicines. These stricken ones whose lives are being sapped by consumption — who are battling with what strength they have against a relentless foe, must have plenty of good food and must be given skilled medical and nursing care if they are to win.

By means of your prompt response and the assistance of others, many frail bodies will be given a new chance of life — a large number will be cured, and in others the fatal march of disease arrested — for others declining days may be tenderly made comfortable.

You see, at this time, it is almost desperately necessary that generous hearted people like yourself take an intimate interest in these luckless and often unconsidered Canadians who live in our midst; for the stress of living costs is adding seriously to their numbers, while the diversity of other public appeals threatens to dim the urgency of their needs.

No conscription of wealth would be necessary to secure the needed money if we could bring the people of Canada into personal contact with the distressing cases, and beyond anything most of us can imagine, that are constantly seeking admission.

Is it hoping too much that you will come to the help of these poor consumptives in the most anxious time they have ever known?

Yours sincerely,

*M. J. Gage*  
President.

I gladly send as a Xmas Gift to

The Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives \$.....

The Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives \$.....

Name.....

Address.....

Gifts may be sent to W. J. Gage, 84 Spadina Ave., Toronto, or to Geo. A. Reid, Treasurer, Headquarters, Gage Institute, 223 College Street, Toronto.

