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Talk of Attack Upon Egypt German Bluff

Surprise There For Teutons if They Ever Attempt It—Russian Bombardment of Varna But an Incident in Big Campaign

New York, Dec. 23—The London correspondent of the New York Herald cables:

Reports that Germany is concentrating great armies to attack and conquer Egypt, and smash the allies on all the other fronts, are regarded here as sheer bluff. I am in a position to say, if the censor will permit it, that the Turco-German combination will receive the greatest surprise of the war if the Egyptian campaign is pursued. Moreover, I am able to tell you on unimpeachable authority that the descent on Varna is only a small part of the great campaign which Russia is almost ready to resume against the Austro-Germans.

SAYS IT HAS STARTED

Rome, Dec. 23—A Turco-German expedition against Egypt has already been initiated, according to information received by the Tribune from neutral sources. Vanguard actions already have occurred. The operations are being directed from Constantinople. The strength of the Egyptian expedition is estimated at 300,000 Turks and 100,000 Germans. Large bands of Arabs are expected to join the invading forces.

War material is being sent daily to Asia Minor. It includes numerous heavy German guns. It is reported that Turkish forces have already crossed into Egypt, south of El Ariah. They have been engaged by British outposts.

The invaders evidently propose to follow the caravan route, which strikes the Suez Canal near Osmaliia. The British have constructed strong fortifications to bar this route. Most of the defenders are colonials.

Full Authority Given For Purchase of Hose

All Left to Commissioner With Limit of $1.05 a Foot—A Somewhat Lively Ending of Council Session

At a meeting of the common council at noon today, Commissioner McLellan was given authority to expend his balance of the 1916 appropriation for whatever brand of fire hose he approves; authority was given to purchase the late Clarence Ward's historical records for $700, and a lease of lot in the rear of the new morgue was approved. The full council was present.

The mayor said that Ven. Archdeacon Raymond had put a valuation of $700 on the records and papers of the late Clarence Ward, and a resolution authorizing their purchase from his widow was adopted with the further proviso that any proceeds from sales by the city to the dominion archivist for copies of the records should go to Mrs. Ward, and that any expense necessary for the proper preservation of the records should be authorized.

On the motion of Commissioner Russell, J.H. McPartland was given a lease of a lot, 20x16, in the rear of the new morgue, off Water street, at $20 a year, subject to termination at three months' notice, without payment for improvements.

Commissioner McLellan moved that the Commissioner of Public Safety be granted permission to purchase such fire hose as to him might seem most suitable, at a price not to exceed $1.05 a foot, f. o. b., St. John, the maximum amount of the purchase to be limited to the amount of money left in the appropriation for 1915.

The commissioner said that he never had said he was going to buy Titan hose, but he thought it was up to him, with the consent of the council, to purchase any brand he preferred. He also vigorously defended his record and his action in this matter, saying that he would not be dictated to by any paper, and that he would not accept the dictum of any one editorial column as the voice of the entire community. It was his intention to do his purchasing in the best interests of the taxpayers. He added that he had prepared a reply to W. H. Thorne & Company's communications, and had just completed it when the fire bells rang last night.

Commissioner Wigmore seconded the resolution, saying that he had more confidence in the judgment of the commissioner than in that of the Globe.

Commissioner Potts said that he would support the resolution but he thought that Com. McLellan should bring to the council a recommendation naming the brand before making a purchase. That is what he (Com. Potts) had to do in his purchases.

The vote was taken with the result that Com. Potts was found in opposition.

Com. McLellan—"This is a vote of confidence in me and I will take the first opportunity to show my appreciation of the members of this council who voted with me. I will not allow any paper to get by with such statements as have been made about me."

Com. Potts—"The commissioner calls this a vote of confidence; the mayor did not vote on it.

Mayor—"The debate is closed."

Com. Potts—"I rise to a question of privilege; my standing is assailed. The commissioner has said that he would show those who did not support him ——"

Com. McLellan—"I said nothing of the sort."

The mayor—"You're not in order."

Com. Potts—"As a citizen I have a right to speak and I am going to speak any way."

Mayor—"There must be no resurrection of the debate; if you have a point of order define it."

Com. Potts—"I voted on the resolution as a matter of business and now it is said that it is a vote of confidence."

Com. McLellan—"Nothing of the sort."

Com. Potts—"I am going to make my statement."

Com. McLellan—Mr. Mayor, you are the presiding officer, are you going to stand this?"

Com. Potts—"If I cannot say what I want to, all I can do is to retire," as he prepared to leave the room.

Com. McLellan—"That is crazy and childish."

Com. Potts—"I'm not crazy; you'll see who is." Exit.

A motion to adjourn was hurriedly put and carried.

INSURANCE CO'S LOSE HEAVILY

Total of $263,500 on the Thorne Properties

$127,000 ON SECTION DESTROYED

Loss Estimated at $150,000—T. McAvity & Sons, With Insurance of $102,000, Lose Only About $3,000—Both Carrying on Business Today

The total insurance carried by W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd., is $263,500. Of this $196,000 is on the stock, $7,500 on the fixtures and $60,000 on the buildings. The amounts on the Thorne building, the central building in Market square, which was the only one in which the fire did serious damage, are: Stock, $105,000; fixtures, $2,000; building, $20,000; total, $127,000. The insurance in the various companies is as follows:

J. M. Queen—Acadia, $5,000; London Mutual, $2,500.

White & Calkin—Atlas, $4,000; N. Y. Underwriters, $3,000.

C. E. L. Jarvis & Son—Queen, $9,000; British Crown, $2,500.

G. E. Fairweather & Son—Hartford, $7,500; Aetna, $2,500.

F. H. Fairweather—Sun, $5,000.

A. C. Fairweather & Sons—Commercial Union, $12,000; Fidelity Phoenix, $8,000.

Armstrong & Bruce—Palatine, $8,000; Yorkshire, $7,500.

R. W. W. Frink—Northern British & Mercantile, $11,000; London Assurance, $6,000.

Peter Clinch—Northern, $17,000.

Cowie & Edwards—Caledonia, $4,000.

J. M. & C. W. Hope Grant—Scottish Union, $21,000; Royal, $8,000.

E. P. Howard—Atlantic Underwriters, $5,000.

W. M. Jarvis—London, Liverpool, Globe, $16,000.

Lockhart & Ritchie—Quebec, $8,000.

Machum & Foster—Royal, $10,000; Liverpool Manitoba, $2,500.

G. O. D. Otty—Union, $5,000.

T. B. & H. B. Robinson—German-American, $5,000; Norwich Union, $10,000.

Wm. Thomson & Co.—Firemen's Fund, $5,000; Glens Falls, $7,500; Westchester, $7,500.

Vroom & Arnold—Boston, $5,000; Connecticut, $7,500.

Hall & Fairweather, Ltd.—Phoenix, $5,000.

Knowlton & Gilchrist—British America, $5,000; Protector Underwriters, $2,000; Home, $7,500; Springfield, $5,000.

T. McAvity & Sons, Ltd., 11-17 King street, carry a total insurance of $102,000, in various companies as follows:

Boston, $2,500; Connecticut, $2,500; British America, $3,000; Home, $9,000; Home, $3,000; Phoenix of Hartford, $5,000; Springfield, $3,000; Commercial Union, $10,000; Fidelity Phoenix, $3,000; Continental, $5,000; Glens Falls, $5,000; Hartford, $1,000; London & Lancashire, $10,000; Liverpool and London and Globe, $10,000; National, $12,000; Sun, $5,000; Northern, $4,000; Royal, $2,000; Union, $2,000; Western, $5,000.

In the adjustment of the losses the insurance companies will be represented by William Jarvis, E. H. Fairweather, Frank Fairweather, C. E. L. Jarvis, F. J. G. Knowlton and Harry Frink. This was arranged at a meeting of the Fire Underwriters Board this morning. Edward Bates represents the companies in the adjustment of the loss on the building and John Flood represents W. H. Thorne & Co.

A large crew of workmen was engaged today in "swamping" and clearing the premises of the W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd., in the parts damaged by last night's fire. Members of the Salvage Corps and some of the firemen remained actively on duty for several hours after the "all-out" was sounded. A stream was kept on through the Chipman Hill alley all day. Clerks were busily occupied with the general clearing and re-arranging of stock. The King street store was thrown open this afternoon, and at once was crowded with Christmas shoppers.

The work of the fire department during last night's fire has won most favorable comment. Through the efforts of the firemen other buildings were saved from damage, and through the work of the Salvage Corps many valuable articles in stock were saved.

Coated with icicles, charred and wrecked, the building from the Market square view today presented a dismal appearance. The upper stories were open to the sky, the roof having been devoured by the flames, while from the upper windows in the King street store many gaps could be seen. Some of the articles in reserve for Christmas presents, to have been delivered today or tomorrow, were saved; the majority were lost. A definite idea of the loss cannot be given as yet, but the approximation remains as already mentioned, at about $150,000.

Kaiser's Illness More Serious Than Admitted

New York, Dec. 23—A cable to the Herald from London this morning says:—

Despatches from Amsterdam and Geneva agree that the Kaiser's illness is much more serious than reported officially from Berlin. Throat specialists have been hurriedly summoned to Potsdam, and the crown prince has been recalled from the front.

It is authoritatively announced that the Kaiser's projected journeys to the Western Theatre of the war and to Constantinople have been abandoned. It is feared that his illness is due to a recurrence of the malady which proved fatal to his father.

BRITISH LOSSES IN DARDANELLES WERE 112,921

The Killed Numbered 25,279—Terrific Fighting of Italians and Austrians Makes Lengthy Casualty List

London, Dec. 23—Great Britain's loss of offices and men at the Dardanelles up to December 11, was 112,921.

This is the grand total of officers and men, including the naval lists—killed, wounded and missing. The number killed was 25,279. In addition to the total of casualties the number of sick admitted to hospitals was 96,683.

The losses were distributed as follows: Killed—Officers, 1,609; men, 23,670. Wounded—Officers, 2,969; men, 72,222. Missing—Officers, 337; men, 12,114.

Zurich, Dec. 22—The total losses in the Austro-Italian theatre of war are placed by Swiss military experts at 750,000 men killed, wounded or captured.

The Italian losses are reckoned at 350,000 men, of whom 50,000 are prisoners and 60,000 dead.

Wounded Austrian soldiers declare that the outside world knows nothing of the terrific violence of the fighting on the Austro-Italian front, especially along the Isonzo River and at Goritz.

SHREWD LADS FROM CANADA MAKE MONEY EVEN ON FRING LINE

Montreal, Dec. 23—Some shrewd Canadians carried on business in the front line trenches and raked in the francs which resulted from their enterprise to the accompaniment of shells swishing overhead and an occasional rifle bullet. tPe. Thomas Clark, of Lachine, and his friend and comrade-in-arms, Pte. Dave Roberts, of Montreal, used to pick up the candle-ends which their more wasteful comrades threw away. Later, in the trenches, they would drive their bayonets cross-wise into the ground and hang their canteen from it. Fires in the trenches were not allowed, for the smoke would give the enemy's batteries the range, and so three of these candle ends would be stuck on a piece of board or anything handy to place under the canteen, and soon the water would be boiling merrily. The tea they thus brewed for themselves, awakened the longings of soldiers with money, and the remaining candle-ends left the possession of the two soldier-merchants, at one franc apiece. This addition to their field allowance they found very acceptable when off duty.

BROTHERS MEET AT WAR; FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS

Interesting Letter Comes to Mrs. Fred. Watson From Her Son

Mrs. Fred Watson, 9 Marsh street, has received an interesting letter and some souvenirs from her husband who is in France with the first contingent. The souvenirs include several cards which he secured from a Belgian convent which had been blown up by the Germans, a ring made from the aluminum time fuse of a German shell, some post cards with tiny silk handkerchiefs enclosed in them, and a piece of the wing of a German aeroplane. Private Watson speaks of seeing his brother, who went over with the 6th C. M. R., for the first time in three years. He asks to be remembered to his friends.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service.

Synopsis—The depression which was situated in Saskatchewan yesterday morning is now centered in northern Michigan, with increasing energy. Snow is falling in northern Ontario and in Quebec, and rain in southern Ontario. In the west the weather is fine and moderately cold.

Rain.

Maritime—Fair today then strong winds and gales east and south with rain late tonight and on Friday.

New England forecasts—Unsettled weather tonight and Friday, probably rain; warmer tonight, increasing south winds.

Today In St. John With The Soldiers

Because of fifty per cent of the members of the military units now drilling here being granted Christmas leave, taking effect today, the usual programme of routine drill is reduced, and there will be little activity until after the New Year. For those who remain on duty at Christmas a good time is being planned, and each mess will be provided with a special dinner with turkey as the leading feature of the menu. Many citizens are sending donations of fruits, candy, tobacco, cakes, and other dainties.

Christmas Greetings.

Personal greetings from the Duke of Connaught have been received in the city by the officers commanding the various military units, with his good wishes for the men.

Cadet Instructors.

Two qualified members of the R. M. C., Kingston, Ont., Lieut. McLeod and Lieut. Barker, have been attached temporarily to the 115th Battalion for duty. Lieut. Barker is at present acting as instructor in Swedish exercises, and Lieut. McLeod in general drill. They made application to Lieut. Col. Wedderburn, O. C., to be attached for this purpose, seeking no remuneration for their efforts, and he was particularly pleased with their offer.

Offered Appointment.

Arthur Reid, formerly of the staff of the Maritime Dredging Co., who is acting as orderly room clerk with the 115th, has been offered a tempting appointment with the Royal Canadian Engineers, but preferred to serve with his present unit. Mr. Reid, who will hold sergeant's rank is now occupied in overseeing the fitting of the quarters for the battalion in the Agricultural Hall, assisting Lieut. Hutchinson. The work is proceeding satisfactorily, but it is not expected to be finished for some days.

Recruiting Rumor.

A report current in the city today was that Lieut. Col. G. W. Fowler, O. C., the 104th Battalion, would not only have control of recruiting for the 140th but for the 115th as well. Another report gave him even wider powers as recruiting officer, but neither could be verified.

Personal.

Private H. J. McAvity of the Travelers' Platoon, will leave this evening for Fredericton to spend Christmas with his wife and family.

Col. H. H. McLean, M. P., returned to the city yesterday from Upper Canada.

Capt. L. P. D. Tilley, recruiting officer, left today for Fredericton.

From Virginia.

A brawny Scotchman, hailing from Virginia, arrived in the city last night and enrolled with one of the local militia units. "I was working in the south," he told an officer whom he met aboard the train and who signed him on the strength, "and I read that the empire needed every man. I bought a ticket for St. John; I'm here now, and I want to go. If we were defeated I'd never hold my head up again, but we're going to win, and I want to have a hand in the victory."

OWNERS SAY JAP LINER SUNK WITHOUT WARNING

London, Dec. 23—The new Japanese liner Yakasaki Maru, reported sunk in the Mediterranean by an Austrian or a German submarine, was sent to the bottom without warning, according to the owners of the ship. The steamer carried 120 passengers and a crew of 160, all of whom were saved. One American passenger, W. J. Leigh, was among those rescued.

The Times says that she was a new boat and represented a very high value, which, it is understood, is insured against war risks by the Japanese government.

Tokio, Dec. 23—News of the sinking of the Yasaki Maru reached Tokio today and caused great excitement. The advices here say the steamship was sunk by a submarine near Port Said.

VIENNA BAKERS ALLOWED TO BAKE ONLY PLAIN BREAD

Vienna, Dec. 23—A ministerial decree forbids the baking of rolls, biscuits and other fancy breads, and permits only the making of loaves of ordinary bread. The order does not apply to households.

Another order requires persons possessing raw oils, benzol, and taroil to report the quantity on hand, on the first and fifteenth of every month. This order authorizes the expropriation of mineral oils if such a step is necessary.

A NEW YEAR SOUVENIR

Rev. F. H. Wentworth is sending to members of his flock a prettily illustrated motto for 1916. There is on one corner a glimpse of the boys in the trenches, and below a picture of the father, mother and smaller children gathered around the family Bible. The text is: "In the name of our God we will set up our banner," and this verse follows:

Take thy banner! and beneath
The brittle clouds encircling wreath
Guard it! Till our homes are free;
Guard it! God will prosper thee.
In the, dark and trying hour,
In the breaking forth of power,
In the rush of steed and men,
His Right Hand will shield thee then.

MARTIAL LAW IN GREECE EXPECTED

Uneasiness Over Likelihood of Bulgar Invasion — Greatest Money Loss of War When Japanese Liner Sank—Greek Premier Wants to Retire

London, Dec. 23—Proclamation of martial law in Greece is reported unofficially to be imminent. Although no confirmation is available, there is evidence of growing uneasiness at Athens over the possibility that Bulgarian troops will cross the border.

The only thing which has occurred to relieve the situation is the announcement that the Bulgarian officer in command of the force, which clashed with the Greeks in Epirus, has been punished, and that the incident is considered closed.

Recrudesence of submarine activity in the Near East, is signalized in a startling manner, by the sinking of the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru. Apparently there was no loss of life, but according to marine insurance men the property losses were the heaviest incurred in any marine disaster of the war. The nature of the valuable cargo remains undisclosed.

The mystery of the bombardment of Varna, which was at first depicted as a formidable Russian attack on the chief Bulgarian port, has stirred London, but according to reports from both sides, at was nothing more than a minor naval action among torpedo boats, in which the shore batteries participated. However, a large Russian fleet is said to be in the vicinity of Varna, and the action may be merely preliminary to a serious Russian attack.

London, Dec. 23—Reuter's Athens correspondent, under date of Tuesday, sends the following:

"The cabinet is sitting in council tonight, and important decisions are expected. The aged premier (M. Skouloudis), finds the strain of office very heavy and is anxious to resign, now that the elections are over and there is a majority for M. Gounaris. The latter, however, at the present juncture, does not desire to assume the reins of government and would rather continue the support of the present ministry, composed of leaders of all parties.

"The Central Powers are concentrating their forces in the Gievgeli sector (in southeastern Serbia), and are expected to take the offensive this week."

An Incident at Varna

London, Dec. 23—It is authoritatively reported that two Russian torpedo boats pursued a Bulgarian torpedo boat on Tuesday to the Bay of Varna, where the coast batteries opened fire on the pursuing vessels. Reuter's Petrograd correspondent so reports. The Russian ships left the zone of fire undamaged. During the raid two Turkish sailing vessels were sunk.

Appeal for Serbians

London, Dec. 23—An appeal for funds for Serbian refugees, signed by the Bishop of London, Earl Curzon of Kedleston, the Earl of Desart and the Right Hon. Herbert L. Samuel, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, was issued here last night.

Quiet on Tuesday

London, Dec. 23—The Reuter's Salonika correspondent says the situation on the Serbo-Greek frontier was unchanged on Tuesday. There was no sign of an invasion of Greek territory by the Teutonic allies.

Bulgars Across Frontier

London, Dec. 23—Reuter's Athen's correspondent sends the following:—"In reply to representations made to the German and Bulgarian governments regarding the Koritza incident, in which a Bulgarian detachment, in alleged pursuit of a small Serbian force, transgressed the Greek frontier, the Greek government, has received assurances that the Bulgarian officer responsible will be punished."

FORD GETS SOME ENCOURAGEMENT

Christiania, Dec. 23—Members of the Nobel Institute unofficially received members of the Ford peace expedition on Wednesday. The president of the Institute, without promising to support the peace mission, expressed hope for its success. He said that neutral countries desired termination of the war.

The Norwegian people look upon the reception of the institute as significant, as such occasions are rare. The expedition will start for Stockholm on Thursday morning.

WILL PRESENT A BILL FOR PREVENTION OF USURY

Washington, Dec. 23—The banking and currency committees of Congress are preparing to work out out soon after the holidays a law to prevent usury.

Several bills have been introduced, one by Senator Gore of Oklahoma, which proposes that every national banking association shall keep a schedule under regulations of the treasury, showing the rate of interest charged on any loan, discount, note or other evidence of debt and that all excessive interest charges be reported to the attorney-general by the comptroller of the currency.

The attorney general would institute proceedings against offending banks to recover the amount of excessive interest. Offenders also would be liable to damages to the government for an amount equal to the excess charges.

CONCERT AT BOYS' CLUB.

The members of the Boys' Club enjoyed an excellent Christmas concert last evening, given by Miss Muriel McIntyre's pupils, assisted by the Misses Julia and Margaret Perie. The programme was entirely in charge of the little ones, with Priscilla Howard as director. The programme included:—Merry Christmas, chorus; song, M. Perie; piano solo, Evelyn Scott musical sketch, "Grandmother's Christmas Memories,"—grandmother, Gladys McMulkin; children, Eleanor Fleming, Priscella Howard, Muriel Tapley, Harold Springer, Margaret Holtes, Muriel Dykeman and Maysie Reynolds; piano selection, Harold Springer; reading, Priscilla Howard; piano solo, Irene Brown; song, Markaret Perie; anvil chorus, Wm. McIntosh; God Save the King, chorus.

IN A FIGHT TO DEATH IN AIR

British and German Aeroplanes Both Wrecked and Occupants Killed

London, Dec. 23—Details of a recent air battle between a British and a German aviator, which ended in the destruction of both machines and the death of their occupants, is printed by the Amsterdam Telegraaf, according to a Reuter despatch.

The British aeroplane, it is said, was flying over Lichtervelde, south of Bruges, Belgium, and dropped several bombs, one of which hit an ammunition depot causing a heavy explosion. On starting back, the aviator found his path intercepted by a German airman. A long and violent battle ensued, in which both aeroplanes were disabled and crashed to earth, killing the occupants.

TWO ESTATES EACH OF $12,000 IN PROBATE

Will of J. H. Venning; Estate of Michael Donovan

The will of James H. Vanning, late of this city, engraver, has been proved by letters testamentary issued to Edward Sears, the surviving executor. By the will Mr. Venning's estate is vested in the trustee, Postmaster Sears and the late Edmund G. Kaye, upon trust to manage the same with power of sale, the real estate to be sold not later than two years after the testator's death. Out of the proceeds the trustees are to pay the legacies appointed in the will and the residue goes in equal shares to George Venning, a brother, and Mrs. Adeline Pettigrew, a neice. The estate consists of a house and premises on Mount Pleasant avenue and personal property. The probate value is $12,700. The proctor is Dr. J. Roy Campbell, K. C.

Letters of administration of the estate of Michael Donovan, late of Carleton, butcher, have issued to his widow, Mrs. Sarah Donovan. The estate consists of personal property valued at $5,570 and two lots of land and dwelling house thereon on the north side of Carleton street. The probate value is $12,000. W. J. Mahoney is proctor.

The trustees of the estate of the late John Edward Boyd have filed their accounts and asked that they be passed and allowed. A citation is issued returnable on March 20. The proctor is F. J. G. Knowlton.

In the estate of Hugh Andrews, the accounts of the administrator, Hugh Andrews of the 104th Battalion, C. E. F., have been passed and allowed, and on his petition Mr. Andrews, the present administrator, because of his absence from the province, is removed from office, and Mrs. Amanda Andrews is appointed administratrix de bonis non. The proctor is J. F. H. Teed.

SOLDIERS BITTEN BY COCKER SPANIEL

One on Nose, Two on Hands—Now Watching For Rabies

Toronto, Dec. 23.—At the exhibition camp yesterday, Q.M.S. Rooke, Lance Corp. McAdam and Private Jackson were bitten by a small cocker spaniel.

Jackson was stooping to caress the animal when it bit him on the nose. The others were bitten on the hands. If the dog develops rabies, the bitten soldiers will be given the pasteur treatment.

Noted Artist Dead

London, Dec. 25—Arthur Hughes, last of the pre-Raphaelite painters, died at Kew yesterday. He was a friend and fellow worker of John Millais, Gabriel Rossetti, William Holman Hunt, John Ruskin and William Morris.

THE FIGHTING IN THE WEST

Paris, Dec. 23—Last night to the south of Arras the Allies artillery kept up destructive fire. In Champagne there was fighting at close quarters with hand grenades. At Hartmanns-Weilerkopf, the situation is unchanged on the French left, where the counter attacks of the enemy are proceeding. The French right continued to make progress yesterday.

REV. DR. BOYLE NEW PRESIDENT OF KING'S

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 23—At a special meeting of the board of governors of King's College in Truro yesterday Rev. Dr. H. T. S. Boyle of Divinity at Trinity University, Toronto, was elected president of the university at Windsor.

MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR CANADIANS IN THE HANDS OF GERMANS

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 23—Many of the misgivings as to the treatment of Canadian prisoners in German camps will be set at rest by the announcement that the international committee of the Y. M. C. A.'s of the United States is following up permission recently granted by the Kaiser to look after prisoners in Germany. Already a wonderful improvement has been noted.

NORTHCLIFFE DESIGNS NOW ON LLOYD GEORGE?

New York, Dec. 23—The New York Herald publishes the following cable from its London correspondent:

The feeling is growing here that Mr. Lloyd George is being used by Lord Northcliffe as a monkey to pull the conscription chestnuts out of the fire.

His demand for 380,000 men to make munitions before the figures of those who have enrolled under Lord Derby's scheme to do the real fighting for the empire are made public, has convinced the liberal, labor and Irish members of parliament that Lord Northcliffe has made upon the great little Welshman, an impression of the necessity of a dictator to conduct the war, and there are those who do not hesitate to say that, having failed with Sir Edward Carson, Lord Northcliffe is ready to become the political godfather of the man whom his newspapers once denounced, if by doing so he can upset the cabinet.

It is because of this report on every tongue that Mr. Redmond, Mr. Thomas and others warned the government that the labor and Irish parties will not submit to conscription.

HE LOST $40

Freeburn Gulliver of Rockville, Sussex, who came to the city yesterday to do some Christmas shopping, lost his picket-book containingfi upwards of $40. Having no more money and no place to go, he went to the police station and told his story. He was promised that enquiries would be made.

EMBARGO REMOVED FROM NEWFOUNDLAND

St. Johns, Nfld., Dec. 23—The Newfoundland government has been advised of the removal of the prohibition of exportation of fish from this colony to Greece.

The British government has declined the request of the Newfoundland government that newfoundland fish be permitted free entrance into France during the war.