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WEATHER—FAIR

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## TEUTONIC DRIVE IN ROUMANIA CONTINUES; THOUSANDS OF BRITISH CALLED TO COLORS; CANADA SENDS GREETINGS TO ALL ALLIES

### ROUMANIANS AND RUSSIANS FALL BACK

Near Fokshang and Thence Southeast to the Danube  
Petrograd Reports That Russians and King Ferdinand's Army Have Taken Up New Positions Without Pressure from Teutonic Allies.

**GERMANS REPULSED AT VERDUN— THOUSANDS OF BRITISH MEN CALLED TO COLORS—BRITISH PATROLS ENTER THE ENEMY'S TRENCHES EAST OF ARMENTIERES AT SEVERAL PLACES—HOSTILE ATTACK REPULSED NORTH OF YPRES.**

Bombardments and minor patrol engagements continue to prevail on all of the fronts except in Roumania, where the Teutonic allies are keeping up their inroads through the kingdom. The Russians and Roumanians are being steadily driven back from the Transylvanian Alps and lower Moldavian region, their line in the latter district now resting half way between Rimnik Sarat and Fokshang. Around Braila, on both sides of the Danube, the invaders have further driven in the defenders of the territory. Near Fokshang and thence southeast to the Danube Petrograd reports that the Russians and Roumanians have taken up new positions without pressure from the Teutonic allies. In Dobruja, the invaders, twenty-four battalions strong, have forced the defenders to give ground.

#### Huns Attempt Surprise.

In the Verdun sector east of the Ambrières Farm the Germans attempted a strong surprise attack against the French positions, but were repulsed, according to Paris. In the region of Ypres and Loos considerable artillery activity has prevailed.

On the front in Russia comparative quiet prevails, while in the Austro-Italian theatre the usual bombardments are in progress. No reports have been received from the Macedonian theatre.

The British government has appointed Earl Granville as diplomatic agent to the provisional government of the Venetian Islands at Saloniki.

#### Called To Colors.

London, Jan. 1.—New Year's Day was an eventful one in the lives of many Britishers. Thousands of men of military age who had been granted temporary or other arrangements for the carrying on of their business were called to the colors, while others who had been doing work of national importance and whose places have now been taken by women or by men over the military age, donned khaki for the first time.

There was a rush at all the recruiting offices, and all day long columns of men after having complied with the formalities, were marched off to the depots to commence training.

The new railway time tables and fares also came into effect. Numerous trains were canceled, stations were closed and travellers were called upon to pay a fifty per cent. increase in fares.

Except in Scotland, where there is another week's supply of white flour, bakers today under the new order of things started to bake exclusively white wheat or standard bread.

London, Jan. 1.—The British official communication issued this evening says:

"Our patrols entered the enemy's trenches east of Armentieres at several places last night. Early this morning a hostile patrol reached our lines south of Pilkelm, north of Ypres, but was immediately driven out.

"During the night the enemy artillery was somewhat more active than usual north of the Ancre. Today saw artillery activity by both sides at various places along the front, being most marked on the Loos salient and in the neighborhood of Faquisant and Ypres."

Paris, Jan. 1.—The communication issued by the war office this evening says:

"On the right bank of the Meuse the Germans directed a strong surprise attack against the trenches we had taken to the east of Chambrettes Farm. The attack failed completely. On the remainder of the front the day was calm."

"To the east of Ramscapelle and toward Dixmude reciprocal bombardments took place. A spirited struggle by means of field and trench artillery is reported at Hetas."

Berlin, Jan. 1. via Sayville.—The official statement issued by the war office tonight says:

"Reports from the Roumanian and Russian fronts say that lively fighting is in progress."

### POSSIBLE THAT WAR MAY GO ON FOR YEAR

Little Hope at Washington  
that Peace Negotiations will be Successful.

Washington, Jan. 1.—President Wilson late today spent an hour discussing the country's foreign affairs with Senator Stowe, chairman of the foreign relations committee. Their talk, it is understood, was devoted to the situation growing out of the unfavorable Entente reply to the peace proposals of the Central Powers.

Aside from transmitting the Entente note to Germany and her allies the United States will take no further formal action in the peace movement at least until the Entente governments have replied to the communication President Wilson addressed to them.

#### Answer Prepared.

Cable reports from Paris announcing that the Entente answer to President Wilson had been prepared and would be the same in effect as that to the belligerents, did not increase hope here for a favorable outcome of the negotiations. It is known that the German embassy believes that unless the door for a further advance by its government, the war will go on another year at least.

So far as could be learned the President today sought no action from congress relating to the peace movement. It was learned, however, that administration leaders in the senate were preparing to sound sentiment of resolutions introduced just before the holiday adjournment, which would declare it to be the sense of the senate that the action of the President, in addressing his note to the belligerent powers represented "the overwhelming public sentiment and earnest desires of the people of the United States."

Administration officials are admittedly concerned over efforts to make the action of this government appear as directed against the Entente Allies and in favor of the Central Powers.

#### Have Ear to Ground.

While awaiting the reply of the Entente Allies to the President's note, the state department is keeping in touch with official sentiment both among the Entente Allies and Central Powers.

As soon as the reply of the Entente is received, President Wilson is expected to address another communication to both sides, making clear his position and probably clearing up some misconception which he feels have developed. It may be stated that he will not seek to force peace on either side, but will continue to insist that the rights of the United States be thoroughly respected.

In connection with the admittedly serious concern with which the administration looks upon the submarine question, much attention was paid by officials to press despatches from Berlin stating that a semi-official news agency there had given out the information that the reply of the Entente Allies was generally looked upon as a "flat refusal" of peace proposals of Germany and her allies, adding that "this is especially regretted for the sake of the neutral countries suffering from the consequences of the war."

### THE ENTENTE WILL EXPLAIN ORIGIN AND OBJECTS OF WAR

Answer to President Wilson will Contain Long Detailed Declaration—Germany Realizes that Allies have Refused Flatly to End War Now.

Paris, Jan. 1.—The answer of the Entente Powers to President Wilson's note, according to the Matin, will contain a long, detailed account of the origin and objects of the war. It will include also a declaration by the Belgian government "thanking the generous American nation for the immense services rendered during the last two years," and expressing its "confidence in America's friendly collaboration for the future."

The answer, the Matin says, will contain all the facts justifying in the eyes of actors in and spectators of the great struggle, the determination and will of the Allies.

#### Germany Disappointed.

Berlin, Jan. 1.—The text of the Entente note replying to the peace offer of the Central Powers, says the semi-official Overseas News Agency, "reached Berlin as transmitted from Paris by the Havas News Agency. The general impression here is if this version is correct that the Entente answer to the sincere German offer while verbose, nevertheless is a flat refusal to end the war. This is especially regretted for the sake of the neutral countries suffering from the consequence of the war."

"It is pointed out especially remarkable that the Entente note mentions the right of the nationalities, although one of the avowed purposes of the Entente is the conquest of Constantinople and the Straits."

#### What Austria Says.

London, Jan. 1.—The Austro-Hungarian foreign minister is quoted in a despatch to Reuters Telegram Company from Vienna by way of Amsterdam, as saying, with regard to the notes of Norway, Sweden and Denmark, concerning: "The Austro-Hungarian government is glad to state that its views in this matter agree with yours. It has sympathetically accepted President Wilson's suggestions and therefore with satisfaction sees Sweden, Denmark and Norway support President Wilson's initiative."

### NEW YEAR'S EVE QUIET IN LONDON

Midnight Services Sparsely Attended—King and Queen Passed Year End at Sandringham.

London, Jan. 1.—The third New Year's eve of the war was extremely quiet in the British capital. The dinner tables in the restaurants were well filled largely by soldiers but all the establishments closed at eleven and few persons lingered in the streets or elsewhere to watch the passing of 1916. There was the traditional greeting outside St. Paul's Cathedral but it was a smaller crowd than usual that joined in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne." For the first time since the war began the Cathedral clock bell, known as "Great Paul," chimed the last hour of the year. A few churches held midnight services but they were sparsely attended.

#### National Intercession.

The day had been observed as one of national intercession and in recognition of the devotion of the men and women variously serving their country. Special services were held in the churches of all denominations and collections made for the Red Cross and the Belgian Relief Fund. The congregations in the leading places of worship were very large. King George, Queen Mary and the royal family, who spent Christmas in London, passed the year's end at Sandringham where they attended intercession services.

### CANNOT NOW GRASP HAND OF GERMANY

Important Address by Sir George Buchanan, British Ambassador to Russia.

London, Jan. 1.—Sir George Buchanan, British ambassador to Russia, presiding at the annual dinner of the English Club last night, said in part according to a Reuter despatch from Petrograd:

"Between us and Germany a great gulf is fixed, red with the blood of peaceful non-combatants. We cannot grasp her hand again until the armies of Germany have been defeated and the spirit of militarism permeating the whole nation exterminated. During the past two years Great Britain more than once has been accused not only of wishing to secure the lion's share of the spoils but of thwarting the realization of Russia's traditional ambitions. Premier Trepoff's recent statement in the Duma laid that bogey at rest forever."

#### Backs Up Russia.

"The British government, when first approached on the subject of Constantinople and the Straits, early in the spring of 1915, immediately expressed its whole-hearted assent. We want to see Russia largely compensated for all her services and sacrifices; we want to help her to the prize she has so long dreamed of; we want to see her strong and prosperous, and we want to consolidate for all time the alliance which this war has cemented, for upon its maintenance depends the future peace of the world. That is the cornerstone of our policy."

Sir George in the course of his speech said that Great Britain during the war had advanced more than 600,000,000 pounds sterling to her allies for the purchase of war material, which otherwise they would have been unable to procure, besides the materials she supplied direct.

#### KING GEORGE THANKS PEOPLE OF CANADA.

Ottawa, Jan. 1.—The following message from His Majesty the King was received by the Governor General tonight:

"I thank you warmly for the message you have conveyed to me on behalf of the Dominion of Canada. It is with the fullest confidence in the ultimate issue of this great struggle that I heartily reciprocate the hopes of the Canadian people that our victory will secure an abiding peace to my whole empire. I am deeply sensible of Canadian self-sacrifice and firm resolution to crown the success of the Allied arms with God's blessing and I pray that the New Year will prove the vindication of the righteous cause."

### CANADA SENDS GREETINGS TO ENTENTE ALLIES

Government Again Announces People of Dominion Will Spare No Effort and Shrink from No Sacrifice Which May Be Necessary.

MESSAGES SENT TO KING GEORGE AND HEADS OF RUSSIA, JAPAN, FRANCE, BELGIUM, PORTUGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, INDIA, ITALY AND OTHER ENTENTE COUNTRIES.

Ottawa, Jan. 1.—Messages from the government of Canada expressive of the determination of the Canadian people to aid effectively in the war, were despatched to all of the Allies, save those whose New Year comes later, on the occasion of New Year's.

#### TO KING GEORGE.

"My advisers desire me to convey to Your Majesty with their humble duty and earnest and confident hope that in the year upon which we are about to enter the cause of liberty, civilization and humanity for which the Allied nations have undertaken this war may be crowned with victory and an abiding peace. They desire to express once more to Your Majesty the firm and unwavering resolve of the Canadian people to spare no effort and shrink from no sacrifice which may be necessary on their part for that purpose. They pray that in the coming year the divine blessing may attend the labors of Your Majesty and your ministers in the great cause for which our Empire has girded on its strength in this war."

#### To Belgian King.

"The government of Canada, at the beginning of the New Year send greetings to His Majesty the King of Belgium and desire to convey on behalf of the Canadian people the most profound admiration for the heroic and noble part played by the people and the armies of Belgium throughout this war, and to express the determination of the Canadian people that the objects so dear to the Belgian nation and marked out by the Allies as the purpose of their struggle, shall be fully attained."

#### To the French President.

"The government of Canada send at the beginning of the New Year most cordial greetings to the president of France with the assurance that the people of this dominion, composed chiefly of the British and French races have been moved to the most profound admiration by the splendid and indomitable spirit of the French nation, and by the valorous and inspiring achievement of the armies of France throughout the war, and they desire to express on behalf of the Canadian people, the most grateful recognition of the extraordinary and notable services thus rendered to the common cause."

#### To Japanese Emperor.

"The government of Canada, at the beginning of the New Year send convey to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan their most cordial good wishes and the deep appreciation felt by the people of this dominion for the loyal and most valued support rendered the Allied cause by the Empire of Japan throughout this war."

(Continued on page 2)

### CONFIDENT OF VICTORY FOR ALLIES IN 1917

New Year Welcomed As Beginning of End of Great World War.

With the British Armies in France, via London, January 1. — The arrival of 1917 was welcomed on the western front by the British and French soldiers as a beginning of the end of the great world war. There may be varying views and theories as to how the end is to be brought about, but there is no question that throughout the British army there is a conviction that the next twelve months will bring a victorious peace to the Allies.

### SIR ROBERT NOT TO SPEAK IN THIS CITY

Premier Suffering from Slight Indisposition — Hon. Mr. Hazen Will Speak Here and at Halifax.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, Jan. 1.—Sir Robert Borden had intended to address a national service meeting at St. John, N. B., on Jan. 4th and one at Halifax next day, but he is suffering from a slight indisposition and under the advice of his physician he will not be able to address the concluding meetings of the Dominion-wide national service campaign which he and Mr. R. B. Bennett have conducted.  
Hon. J. D. Hazen will take his place at the St. John and Halifax meetings.

### ST. JOHN MAN DIES OF HIS WOUNDS

William L. Hickey, of 14 Sydney St., Passes Away—Sergt. MacLaggan, of Taymouth, Killed.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Sunday night's casualties:

Infantry.  
Previously reported wounded, now missing—William E. G. Whitley, 102 Lockman St., Halifax; George Brennan, 267 Pleasant St., Halifax; Thos. Stockall, 85 Longard Road, Halifax; Leo Bell, 31 East Yonge St., Halifax.  
Wounded—Wm. J. Brothers, 84 West St., Halifax; Arthur H. Corney, Sunnyside, P.E.I.; LeBaron Beach, Hunter's Home, Queens Co., N. B.  
Killed in action—Sergt. Frank MacLaggan, Taymouth, York Co., N. B.  
Seriously ill—James C. Stackhouse, 57 Market Place, St. John, N. B.  
Wounded—Lance Corporal Edgar Shampier, Kingston, N. B.  
Died of wounds—William L. Hickey, 14 Sydney St., St. John, N. B.

### THE CUTTER PROTECTOR BLOWN UP

London, Jan. 1.—The cutter Protector has blown up. The number of men lost is unknown.

### NORMAN S. CROKER DEAD OF BULLET WOUND

Montreal, Jan. 1.—Norman S. Croker, president of the Castle Bond Tea Company, Limited, who was felled by a bullet through the head in the company's warehouse on December 7th, died tonight in the General Hospital. The case, according to the police, was an attempt at suicide. Mr. Croker's widow and three daughters survive.