NEWS OF WORLD TOLD IN BRIEF

Servians Reported to Have Re-occupied Belgrade After Defeating Austrians in Hard-Fought Battle

THIRD CANADIAN CONTINGENT

National Prohibition Appears to be Defeated in New Zealand—Dominion Parliament to Open in February—Contest For Lord-Lieutenancy of Ireland.

The Servians, after a fierce battle, have re-occupied Belgrade, according to a Nish despatch. The Austrians occupied Belgrade on December 2, after having besieged it since July 29. The Servian Government has been moved to Nish.

Major-General Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, passed through Montreal last night on his way to Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, where he will inspect the troops now in training for overseas service. He expressed satisfaction at the manner in which the organization for both the Second and Third Contingents is progressing, saying that recruiting for the latter would commence soon.

A second French-Canadian regiment is to be formed in Quebec province for overseas service. Authorization for the formation of this regiment, which will go to the front with the Third Contingent, was granted in Ottawa yesterday.

An indication of the defeat of national prohibition in New Zealand is given in the preliminary count of the poll made public here as follows: "The vote in 51 license districts gives for national prohibition 199,850; for national continuance 290,697. In twelve no-license districts the vote for national prohibition is 40,689, and for national continuance 36,771."

The date of the opening of the Dominion Parliament is expected to be fixed by the Cabinet this week before the ministers leave the city for Christmas holidays. There is nothing official as to the probable date, but it is the general belief that the house will not be summoned until February. Two dates considered most likely are February 4 or February 11.

The contest between Lord Wimborne and Lord Granard for the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, the post which Lord Aberdeen is about to resign, is an exciting feature of domestic politics in England. Both already hold offices in the Government, and it is understood that Lord Wimborne has the strongest influence with the Cabinet. Lord Granard, on the other hand, finds his main support among the Irish Nationalists.

The steamship Doric has arrived at London with nearly 200 carloads of food, clothing and boots from Canada for Belgian sufferers. She will proceed to Rotterdam immediately.

For the purpose of testing the practical efficiency of the recently formed Toronto automobile corps, a test mobilization has been arranged. The plan will be carried out with the aid of two battalions of infantry from Exhibition camp.

The German Embassy at Washington has issued a statement in regard to the recent battle between the British and German fleets off the coast of South America, stating that eight English cruisers, among them two of the Invincible type, took part in the battle off Falkland Islands.

The Peace Conference summoned by the Socialist Societies of the Scandinavian countries, which was to have opened in Copenhagen on December 6, has been postponed until January. The official explanation is that the American delegates were unable to reach Denmark in time for the earlier date.

It is announced at Santiago, Chile, that the German cruiser Dresden, now at Punta Arenas, is damaged. She will be allowed to make repairs, but will be compelled to sail immediately after these are effected, or else be interned.

Efforts to thwart the injunction proceeding instituted by the General Investment Company, of Maine, which will prevent directors of the Lake Shore Railway Company from voting for a consolidation with the New York Central Railway Company at a meeting to be held here December 22, has been made in Common Pleas Court in Cleveland. Judge Stevens, who conducted the hearing, is not expected to give his decision for several days.

The Army Messenger, a newspaper issued by the staff of the armies at the eastern front, has learned that the use of cholera cultures as a weapon of modern warfare was proposed officially by General von Hetzendorf, for use against the Russians and Servians.

A natural gas explosion in a two-story apartment house on Madison avenue, Cleveland, last night killed seven persons, seriously injured eight and wrecked the building. Windows for a block around were broken, and persons in a drug store across the street were thrown off their feet and injured by broken glass.

The civil servants of Ottawa have offered to raise a regiment for active service. The names of four hundred who have offered their services to the Government in a military capacity have been handed to Sir Robert Borden.

BANK OF VANCOUVER, INJURED BY RUMORS, SUSPENDS PAYMENT.

Vancouver, B.C., December 15.—Widespread and damaging rumors resulting in the loss of public confidence and heavy withdrawals of deposits, inability to quickly collect outstanding loans and failure to obtain financial assistance in the crisis, were some of the reasons which led to the suspension of payment on the part of the Bank of Vancouver.

The directors are confident that the depositors will be paid in full, as the assets are ample.

The assets at the close of business this evening amounted to $1,098,000, of which about $70,000 is in cash, cheques, bank balances and on deposit, with the Government at Ottawa.

The liabilities are composed of deposits totalling $379,000, and notes in circulation of $325,000.

On November 6 the net deposits were $1,507,000, and the notes in circulation $373,000.

In the first six weeks of the war the airmen accompanying the British troops alone had spent 1,400 hours in the air and flown 87,000 miles.

GLEANED FROM MANY SOURCES

The Servians have re-occupied Belgrade.

The Federal Grand Jury is to investigate Boxboard Trust.

All stocks listed on the Ne wYork Stock Exchange will be admitted to trading on the floor this morning.

The London Stock Exchange is expected to re-open January 4th.

Presidents of Steel Corporation subsidiaries will hold the regular monthly meeting this week and will discuss wages and production cost.

Powder and Arms factories are all busy but managers deny selling to belligerents.

The Federal Reserve Board authorizes the banks Atlanta and Richmond to lower discount rates.

It is estimated there are 4,258,000 tons of iron ore unmined in the United States.

John D. Rockefeller purchased 50,000 red cross seals to aid the anti-tuberculosis campaign.

There is determined fighting in Alsace with the French moving toward Altkirch.

A slot machine has been inverted for checking umbrellas, canes and small packages in public places.

Mrs. Payne Whitney, of New York has bought the portrait of Robert Louis Stevenson for $4,800.

By a new process, it is probable that price of radium can be reduced from $120,000 to $40,000 a gram.

Northern Pacific buys 120 steel cars, valued at $2,000,000.

Two more boats were chartered to carry 25,000 bales of cotton, valued at $1,750,000 to Germany.

Petrograd claims to be forcing the Germans further back in North Poland.

Twelve industrials 76.86, advance 3.30 over Saturday; twenty rails 92.29, advance 2.08.

The Austrian army driven by the Servians will assume the defensive according to intimations from Vienna.

Two British warships are reported to have entered the Straits of Magellan in pursuit of the German cruiser Dresden.

Carson C. Peck, vice-president of the Brooklyn Times Corporation, has become sole owner of that newspaper.

An order for knapsacks worth $500,000 has been placed with a factory in St. Louis by the British Government.

Italian government has consented to allow American cotton destined for Switzerland to pass through Italy.

Russian government agent who arrived Saturday says he is here to spend $10,000,000 for machinery for use in manufacturing.

A codfish dragged Ernest Morrock, of Manhattan, into the ocean while fishing from the steamer Augusta at the Cholera Banks.

New York wholesale shoe house has received an order from one of belligerent nations for 100,000 pairs of men's combination one and two buckle felt boots.

An order for $800,000 worth of steel shells, shrapnel cases and other munitions of war has been placed with a Philadelphia manufacturing concern. It will require four months to compelte order.

Earliest possible date for re-opening London Stock Exchange is January 4. Plans include elaborate precautions against German liquidation. Sellers would have to specify in advance securities offered. No open bidding or offering would be permitted and arbitrage transactions would be restricted.

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NOTES ON PUBLIC UTILITIES

Although gross earnings of Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, operating subsidiary of Central States Electric Corporation, failed by $5,604 in October, to come up to the record for October, 1913, a reduction of $9,215 in operating expenses, resulted in an increase in net earnings of $3,611. Earnings have been showing monthly decreases since July, in which month there was an increase of $871 over July, 1913. In August there was a decrease in gross of $3,454, which, with an increase in operating costs of $4,996, resulted in a decrease in net of $8,450, while for September the decrease in gross was $7,191, with a reduction of $1,802 in operating expenses. Reports from Cleveland are to the effect that the situation is improving with a consequent larger use of electric power and an increase in consumption of current by the street railway. Gross, as reported since May 1, 1914, is subject to an adjustment to be made after the Ohio Public Utilities Commission has passed upon the electric rates to be charged by the company. The Cleveland council cut the rate to 3 cents a kilowatt hour and the company appealed to the commission. While the company may have to accept some cut in its present rates, it is not expected that there will be a reduction to anything like a 3-cent rate. For the 12 months ended October 31, gross earnings were $4,246,430, an increase of $339,352, or 8.68 per cent. Operating expenses and taxes increased $233,404, or 11.57 per cent., leaving an increase in net of $105,948, or 5.61 per cent. Interest charges, preferred dividends and amortization of bond discount were larger by $7,483, or 6.58 per cent., while depreciation charges were $424,634, a decrease of $10,830, or 2.49 per cent., leaving a balance for the common stock of $1,147,701, an increase of $109,295, or 10.52 per cent.

The El Paso Consolidated Gold Mining Company is arranging to install a 150 horse-power hoist to use the Arkansas Valley Railway, Light & Power Co. service, and will install a large compressor later. The United States Portland Cement Company has business contracted ahead which will require working two shifts a day until next March. During the week ended November 28 the Arkansas Valley Company's connected lighting load increased 120 kilowatts, a large part of this being the new white way lighting system.

John H. Roomer, chairman of the Railway Commission of the State of Missouri, will, on February 1, join the organization of H. M. Byllesby & Co., of Chicago, in charge of the legal business of that organization and its allied interests. H. M. Byllesby & Co. are engineers and managers of public utilities throughout the country from the Mississippi Valley to the Pacific Coast.

The Arkansas & Territorial Oil & Gas Co. will retire its entire bonded debt of $125,000 on the next interest date, January 1, according to announcement by H. M. Byllesby & Co. The bonds to be paid off consist of a first mortgage issue bearing interest at 6 per cent. and due 1919.

The Louisville Gas and Electric Co. during the week ended November 28 secured contracts for 147 electric customers with 114 kilowatts lighting load and 90 horse-power in motors, and took orders for 128 domestic heating installations.

NEWS OF THE PLAYHOUSES

Marie Dressler at The Princess.

"Sister Susie's Sewing Shirts for Soldiers," sang Marie Dressler—— and shortly after that it took just seven curtain calls to get Marie to come to the front of the boards and say her say, and even then the laughter-weary audience were not satisfied. Cannot some one invent a more expressive word than funny? for when one says that Miss Dressler is funny, it does not convey, in the most remote manner, just how funny she really was. It is impossible to describe—the whole thing was a "Mix-Up" from start to finish and after the action (a very fitting word) had progressed apace one would ask "What is it all about?" and the question would remain unanswered. But that did not matter. The audience was convulsed with the most hearty and unproarious laughter and that was all that counted last night.

Plot——there was one, but even that did not count. All that counted was Marie and her supporting company, but principally Marie. Then there was Norah, the cook. Like all cooks, Norah was from the Emerald Isle and then the poor distracted husband, to say nothing of the wife. Marie Dressler broke up a happy home and then quite unintentionally put it all to gether again as well as bringing the husband once more into favor with Aunt Lucy.

Just one hint to those interested—if you cannot or are afraid to laugh, do not go to the Princess this week, but if you are prepared to enjoy a really and truly funny show to the full, just go, for it will be worth you while. Marie's advice is good, and one cannot help following it: "Smile a while; and while you smile, others smile; and soon there'll be miles and miles and miles of smiles."

She also says that she is not young—no, she does not pose as sweet sixteen but she says, "I wonder how I still have the nerve to visit this city time and time again and I do not see how the audience will stand for it. Well do I remember some of the old grey hairs in the front row when they uesd to come to see me under mother's care. That was a long time ago." She, however, is natural and when that is said, little more praise can be adequately given. Special ment on can well be given to Mr. Bart Lytell, Miss Evelyn Vaughn, Miss Julie Blanc and Mr. Robert Ober, to say nothing of Miss Sarah McVicker.

See this show, for it is the one and only sure cure for all ailments, including the blues.

At His Majesty's.

The premiere in Montreal of the Del S. Lawrence Stock Company, was encouraging to the players, when the "Squaw Man" met with high approval from a fairly well filled house.

Mr. Del S. Lawrence made a strong presentation as Capt. Wyngate, while Mr. Abbie was affective as Petrie. Mr. Luce was good as Cash Hawkins, the all-round bad man, contriving to give effect to this role without overdoing it.

There was not much work for the feminine section of the company, except in the Indian scene, which was admirably rendered, and in which Miss Mildred Page did excellent work.

Next weeek the company will present the Sutro play, "The Walls of Jericho," in which Miss Edna Baker, a popular leading woman with the Frohman forces in New York will make her first appearance before a Montreal audience.

The Vaudeville Bill.

A high standard of excellence is shown in the bill at the Orpheum this week, the whole show being composed of unusually good turns.

Captain Treat's trained seals are very excellent in every way and far above the average animal turn.

Following three or four acts which had registered solid hits, Grace La Rue, who made her first vaudeville appearance here, rendered her songs in good voice until it weakened in her last number. She wore more diamonds than any performer seen on the Orpheum this year.

A large tank is used to give examples of deep sea diving, the submarine telephone and the searchlight under water. Captain Sorche, who worked on the hull of the U. S. battleship Maine, sunk in Havana harbor, explained the purposes and dangers of diving.

The Gayety.

Joe Hurtig's Girls from Happyland, featuring Princess Luba Heroff in a two act musical skit entitled "The Gay Parisienne," is the attraction at the Gayety theatre this week, and the production was well received by large houses at yesterday's two performances.

HAPPENINGS IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

New York American League Club Has Been Sold to Colonel Jacob Ruppert

CURLING SCHEDULE OUT

Johnny Summers, Holder of the Lonsdale Belt, Was Knocked Out Last Night in Contest for Welterweight Championship of Britain.

The Journal of Commerce Bowling Team took three games from the Evening News team in a friendly match on the Belmore Alleys last night.

The scores were as follows:—

Evening News.

E. Smith	127	108	154—389
H. Levin	130	145	120—395
A. Robineau	104	108	112—324
G. Ingram	123	148	161—432
J. Fogarty	165	108	134—407
Totals	649	617	686 1947

Journal of Commerce.

S. Bedding	191	167	243—601
W. Mould	122	123	130—375
A. Wilson	104	115	...—219
F. Howden	...	121	140—261
H. Mould	78	...	98—176
V. Sauve	158	156	161—475
Totals	653	682	772 2107

Walter Beatty, the Midland amateur hockeyist, is said to have changed his mind about joining the pros. He was to have played with Ontarios.

Johnny Summers, holder of the Lord Lonsdale belt, was knocked out in the ninth round by Sergeant Basham in a contest held at the National Sporting Club last evening, for the welterweight championship of Great Britain.

Manager Boon, of the Wanderers, is bound to patch up last year's weak spot in the team—that of goalkeeper—and is on the outlook for a good man.

The New York American League Club has been sold to Col. Jacob Ruppert. The price is about $150,000. Col. Ruppert will not acquire any interest in the Federal League.

The Toronto pro champions are reported to be fast rounding into shape. Frank Foyston, Jack Walker, Harry Cameron and "Cully" Wilson, are in good form. Of the new men, Andy Kyle, the Toronto boy, looks the best, and he will fight it out with Carpenter for spare defence man. Landriault and Malone are just fair.

The curling clubs of the city have arranged a six-game schedule for the coming season, with seven clubs competing. All matches are to be home and home.

N. M. Fineberg won the first prize, a handsome umbrella, at the weekly bridge of the Montreal Amateur Athleic last night. The second prize, a humador, was won by J. W. Anderson.

Jack Laviolette, Donald Smith and Vezina were the only absentees from the initial practice of the Canadiens. Art Ross, who has heretofore played for the Wanderers, was on the ice. The team as a whole looks very fast.

A ten-round bout has ben arranged by Manager George Kennedy, of the Canadien Athletic Club, between Frankie Fleming and Joe Goodney. They will fight before the club on Monday night.

WEATHER MAP.

Cotton Belt—Generally clear. Temperature 4 to 32. No precipitation.

Winter Wheat Belt—Generally clear. No precipitation of importance. Temperature 6 below to 18 above.

American Northwest—Partly cloudy. Light scattered snow. Temperature 0 to 16 below.

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WEATHER: Fair and Cold

Vol. XXIX. No. 189

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SENATOR JAFFRAY, AFTER VERY ACTIVE LIFE, DIES AT TOR

Best Known as President of the Globe Printin pany, He Was Recently Elected to Simi Position in Imperial Bank.

The Honorable Robert Jaffray, who died this ing in Toronto, was born on his father's far Bannockburn, Scotland, on the 23rd of January He was educated at Stirling Academy and business life in Edinburgh. He came to Can a young man of twenty and engaged in the ret wholesale grocery business in Toronto. He s his connection with the grocery business in 1882 when he has been associated with many imp financial and industrial enterprises.

The late Senator Jaffray was best known t his connection with the Toronto Globe, of wh was president for twenty-six years. His conn with the Globe dates back to the time of the late George Brown, whose warm friend and associa had been for many years.

Senator Jaffray was for many years vice-pre of the Imperial Bank and succeeded to the presi a few weeks ago on the death of Colonel Wilkie.

He was also a director of the Canada Life A ance Company, of the Canadian General Electric pany, the British America Assurance Compan Toronto General Trust Corporation, the General ada Loan & Savings Company, the Nova Scotia and Coal Company, and of many other financia industrial companies.

In 1902, he was appointed a commissioner o Queen Victoria Park Board, Niagara Falls, and was made a member and chairman of the Tamis ing and Northern Railway Commission. He largely instrumental in the building of this road the opening up of the great Clay Belt north of Co

In 1906 he was called to the Senate by Earl Gr

Senator Jaffray was a Liberal in politics a Presbyterian in religion.

He leaves a family of four—two sons and daughters. One son, W. G., is a stockbroker in onto; the other son, Rev. Robert A., is a missio in China.

The late Senator was extremey popular with ev one with whom he was associated. His funeral t place on Friday afternoon at two-thirty.

THE FRENCH STATEMENT.

Paris, December 16.—The official 3 p.m. comm que follows: "In Belgium, Westende, northeas Lombartzyde has been violently bombarded by British fleet. The Belgian army has repulse counter-attack on St. Georges and has occupied embankments on the left side of the Yser.

"Our troops who had already gained ground in direction of Klein Zillizeke have also progressed, less appreciably. In the region of St. Eloi, in t of the Aisne and in the Champagne District, there been artillery engagements on which we have gai the advantage at different points.

"In the Argonne there is nothing to report. Woevre region we have repulsed numerous Germ attacks in the forest of Montmartre and have ke possession of all the trenches captured by us on D cember 13th.

"In Alsace we have repulsed an attack west Cernay."

FIFTY SHELLS HAD FALLEN.

Hull, December 16.—One refugee gave the follo ing account of the cannonade:—

"More than 50 shells had fallen in Scarborough u to the time I left and part of the city was burnin when our train pulled out of the station."

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