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UNION GOVERNMENT GOES IN FOR SHIPBUILDING

Ottawa, Jan. 4—An ambitious programme of national shipbuilding is to be carried out as a policy of the union government. The matter for some time has been under consideration, and Hon. C. C. Ballantyne today announced plans designed to utilize to the fullest capacity the Canadian yards and establish rolling mills as essential to the industry.

New Proposals By Russia To Teutons

Give up Occupied Territory Pending Referendum on Self-Definition; Britain May Recognize the Lenine Government

Unless there is a change in original plans, the emissaries of Russia and the Central Powers will meet today to continue their discussion of peace terms which the Bolsheviki have declared are unacceptable. Russia's delegates have proposed that the conference meet in Stockholm, which, if agreed to by the Germans, will make for delay.

NEW RUSSIAN PROPOSALS

A news despatch received in London says the Russians have made counter-proposals to the Germans. It is added that they will be discussed at the next meeting at Brest-Litovsk on Saturday, which would indicate that the Russians have not persisted in their demand that future meetings be held on neutral soil. The new Russian proposals call for complete evacuation of occupied territory pending a referendum on self-definition.

Reports that the German and Austrian emperors and their military and political advisors are much perturbed over the Russian attitude are followed by one that Count Von Hertling, the German chancellor, is ill. Berlin political circles have a rumor that Von Hertling, who is seventy-four years old, is to be ousted in favor of Prince Von Buelow, former chancellor, who is very close to the German crown prince.

Recognition of the Lenine-Trotzky regime in Russia as a de facto government by the Entente Allies is probable, according to the London Daily Chronicle. Such a change of sentiment, it is said, would be due to the threatened break in peace negotiations and might bring from the Allies a statement of democratic policy toward Russia.

Meanwhile, the question of the constituent assembly still bothers the Bolsheviki and demands are made that it be called at once. The government of the Ukraine has sent to the Bolsheviki a demand that it withdraw its troops from the Ukraine and decide whether or not it is at war without that government.

London and Petrograd.

London, Jan. 4—M. Litvinoff, who has been appointed ambassador to London by the Bolsheviki, the Daily Chronicle says, may receive de facto recognition as ambassador, while Sir George Buchanan, British ambassador to Russia, who is reported on his way home may be replaced by a diplomat in sympathy of the ideas of revolutionary Russia.

Assembly on Jan. 14.

Petrograd, Jan. 4—The Bolsheviki have fixed the opening of the constituent assembly for Jan. 18, providing there is present at that time a quorum of 400 members.

Will Germany Yield?

London, Jan. 4—There were two distinct tendencies noticeable in the enemy

(Continued on page 2, second column)

BRITISH MAKE GAIN NEAR LENS; THAT IS WHERE CANADIANS ARE

London, Jan. 4—"Local fighting took place yesterday afternoon on the Cambrai front, in the neighborhood of the Canal Du Nord, without producing any material change in the situation." The war office so reports. "We advanced our line slightly during the night south of Lens. There was some hostile artillery activity during the night in the Bullecourt sector, and also in the Ypres sector."

It has been announced that the Canadians are at Lens.

French Report

Paris, Jan. 4—Violent artillery fighting on the Champagne and Verdun fronts is reported in today's official communication. A German attack in Upper Alsace was repulsed. Eight German airplanes and a captive balloon were brought to earth yesterday. On the same day French squadrons bombarded the factories at Rombach and railway stations at Metz-Sahlons, Conflans and Arnaville. Projectiles weighing 1,500 kilogrammes were dropped."

LELIA BURNS IS BOUGHT BY SYDNEY MAN

Speedy Fredericton Horse Purchased By McCowan

Terry Monahan's speedy stepper, Lelia Burns, says an exchange, has been sold to Robert McCowan, a well-known horseman in Sydney, C. B. The price paid by Mr. McCowan has not been made public, but whatever it was, the general impression is that the Sydney man is to be congratulated on getting possession of one of the best pieces of horseflesh stepping in the maritime provinces today.

It is rumored here that several other speedy New Brunswick horses may soon change hands and be seen in the Cape Breton city in the near future. Some interesting announcements on this score are expected to be made in the course of a few days, unless deals now pending should fall through.

CORN AND OATS.

—Chicago, Jan. 4—Scantiness of receipts tended today to make corn prices harden. Notwithstanding that traffic conditions on the railroads were said to be showing a little improvement, rural offerings were not large. On the other hand, the huge quantities of soft corn believed to be still awaiting disposal acted as a check on any radical advance. Opening quotations, which varied from unchanged figures to ⅛ cent off, were followed by a moderate upturn all around.

Oats, like corn, developed firmness owing to the fact that arrivals from the country were meagre. There was no sign, however, of seaboard buying.

NEED OF MEN FOR ARMIES VERY GREAT

Can't Keep Up to Strength Unless They're Taken From British Munitions Service

London, Jan. 4—Representatives of the government and the trades union met at Westminster yesterday in what is considered a most important conference to discuss the question of man-power. George Nicoll Barnes, member of the war cabinet, presided.

Sir Auckland Geddes, minister of national service, speaking in behalf of the government, said that the position in the last six months had been completely altered by the Russian situation. Ultimately the balance would be more than equalized by the American armies. During the intervening period, however, a great strain would be thrown on the country's resources.

After the closest scrutiny of the whole position, said the minister, the government was convinced that it would be impossible to maintain the armies in the field unless a large number of men were recruited from the munitions services, not merely for the technical units, but also for the fighting units.

FIREMEN, SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS UNITE TO FIGHT SERIOUS HOBOKEN FIRE

Hoboken, N. J., Jan. 4—Firemen and United States soldiers and civilians, aided by New York fire boats and railroad tugs, brought a stubborn blaze under control after a fight of several hours in the heart of the industrial section paralelling the government-controlled water front here today.

A six-story manufacturing plant, containing paper and other mill supplies of the Gatti, McQuade Company, was destroyed with an estimated porperty loss of $250,000. Numerous small fires caused by sparks carried by a 40-mile wind, were checked by the soldiers and citizens, while the firemen, almost exhausted by their efforts at a blaze elsewhere earlier in the morning and handicapped by weak water pressure, fought the flames in the Gatti, McQuade building.

SIR WILFRID TO MONTREAL TO CONSULT WITH COLLEAGUES

Ottawa, Jan. 4—Sir Wilfrid Laurier will visit Montreal on Monday and remain for a few days. His visit is to consult with his Quebec colleagues on the situation in that province and also to determine on a programme for the coming session. The Liberal leader has completely recovered from the worry and fatigue of the campaign.

THREE NEWFOUNDLAND MINISTERS FOLLOW PREMIER

St. John's, Nfld., Jan. 4—As a result of the resignation of Premier Morris three members of the cabinet retired yesterday—Richard S. Squires, colonial secretary; John Bennett, minister of militia, and Michael Gibbs, minister without portfolio.

WANDERERS DEFINITELY WITHDRAW

Montreal, Jan. 4—Samuel Lichtenheim, president of the Wanderers Hockey Club, this morning announced that the resignation of his team from the National Hockey League was final. He intimated that the club's players were disbanded today and given their relase outright. The Wanderers accordingly will not play Toronto tomorrow night.

At the directors' meeting last night, it was said the N. H. L. would be continued with only three teams—Canadiens, Ottawa and Toronto.

OTTAWA SCHOOLS CLOSE.

Ottawa, Jan. 4—Seventeen of thiriy-four separate schools in the city have been closed for lack of fuel. So far as possible, arrangements are being made to accommodate the children in other schools. A dozen carloads of coal are said to be on the way here. The situation is becoming acute.

A TOTAL LOSS

The adjusters have declared St. David's church a total insurance loss, and have ordered the total insurance carried, consisting of $55,000, paid.

A GREAT DIFFERENCE

The returns from the government Savings Bank here for December are as follows: Deposits, $83,914.77; withdrawals, $159,336.37.

ONLY COAL ENOUGH IN HALIFAX TO LAST FOUR DAYS AND HALF

Ottawa, Jan. 4—Official notification has been received in Ottawa to the effect that there is only four and a half days supply of coal in Halifax. It is understood that everything possible to relieve the situation is being done and with moderate weather an adequate supply of fuel may soon be obtained.

LONDON TIMES' VIEW OF KAISER'S SCHEME.

London, Jan. 4 — Germany's manoeuvres at the negotiations with Russia are interpreted by the London Times as indicating that the Kaiser's aim is not only to accomplish the political contest of West Russia, but to bid the pan-Turian movement which had for its object the linking up of the 16,000,000 Turkish speaking people in Rusisa into a line of Mohammedan states stretching from Kazan through Bokhara to Chinese Turkestan and from the Oxus river to Siberia.

The Germans hope Turkey will dominate all these states, says the writer, and Turkish domination will mean German domination. Thus by control of western Russia and middle Asia, Germany will have attained a position incomparably more commanding than that of any other power in the old world.

CANADIAN AIRPLANES.

Toronto, Jan. 4—Colonel Wm. Hamilton Merritt, honorary secretary of the Canadian aviation fund, has been cabled by the war office that it would be advantageous and convenient that gifts of airplanes from Canadians should be made through the Canadian aviation fund, with a view to uniformity in price and procedure. This fund has secured the donation of thirteen airplanes, eight being training planes and five "fighters" for the western front.

FAIL TO ANSWER CALL.

Montreal, Jan. 4—The authorities here had to deal with some cases of desertion under the military service act today. Two hundred and nineteen men called up in the first draft failed to report. It was said that probably some of these men had enrolled before the call. Some, however, are thought to be trying to evade service. Of the number missing eighty-four are English and 135 French.

ADVERTISING.

SITUATION IN NEW YORK STILL SERIOUS

Harbor Blockaded by Ice and Coal Barges Caught; People burning Oil and Suffering is Great

New York, Jan. 4—The ice blockade in New York harbor and adjacent waters, combined with another day of zero weather, today caused concern to the fuel administrators and transportation officials who have been battling against odds in an endeavor to relieve the metropolis from its alarming shortage of coal. Not in years has the ice menace been so great. Barges with thousands of tons of coal on board virtually were ice-bound in the bay last night.

As hundreds of families, unable to get coal, have been burning kerosene, the supply has dwindled to such an extent that an oil famine is now feared. Meanwhile, suffering has increased among the poor, and charitable organizations have been swamped with calls for help. Many school buildings were again closed today, with little prospect of their re-opening until next week.

KENNETH FINLAY IN HOSPITAL IN ENGLAND; BROTHER BACK TO TRENCHES

Mrs. Finlay, wife of Robert J. Finlay, pressman of the Evening Times, has received a letter from her son, Gunner Kenneth Finlay, 1st Canadian Siege Battery, who is now in the New Bridge Street Military Hospital, Manchester, England, in Ward 14 A. He writes: "Of course I am only sick, so don't worry for I am coming along O. K. I had to have an operation but I am not feeling too badly now. I don't think I will make Canada this time, but never mind, I will get back some day. I have just done eighteen and a half months in France."

A brother, William, has been in hospital for seven months, after being wounded, and expected to be back in France early in the New Year.

Women's Peace Conference.

Berne, Jan. 4—The Swiss women's committee for a lasting peace has called an international woman's conference at Berne for March 8 to 8. This action is said to have been taken at the request of women's peace societies in belligerent countries.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

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

Synopsis—The Atlantic disturbance now centered south of Halifax, has caused gales with rain and snow throughout the maritime provinces. The weather continues cold in Ontario and Quebec and mild in the western provinces.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Fair, slowly moderating; Saturday, southeast winds, moderately cold, light snowfalls.

Upper St. Lawrence and Ottawa Valley and Lower St. Lawrence—Fair and decidedly cold; Saturday, a little higher temperature.

Gulf and North Shore—Strong northeast winds with snow; Saturday, clearing, with northerly winds.

Colder Tomorrow.

Maritime—Strong winds and gales, shifting towards westward, snow or rain; Saturday, strong northwest winds, clearing and colder.

Superior—Fair and moderately cold today and on Saturday.

Manitoba—Fair and moderately cold.

Saskatchewan—Fair, moderately cold in north, mild south.

Alberta—Fair and mild.

New England—Fair and continued cold tonight; Saturday, increasing cloudiness and not quite so cold. Moderate to fresh north winds.

SAYS THERE ARE FIFTY THOUSAND REAL SLACKERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Washington, Jan. 4—Fifty thousand real slackers in the United States is Provost Marshal General Crowder's estimate in a report to Secretary of War Baker. That calculation supposes that ten men in each registration district have escaped service without being caught.

BRITISH SHIPPING FIGURES

London, Jan. 4—The following shipping figures have been obtained from a reliable source:

Tonnage of sea-going ships over 1,600 tons in August, 1914, 16,841,519; lost by enemy action and otherwise less new construction, purchases and captures, 2,750,000; remaining January 1, 1918, 14,091,519.

These important figures tell the story accurately of the results of the submarine campaign against British shipping.

QUEBEC FIRES; IN ONE A LIFE IS LOST

Quebec, Jan. 4—A seven dwelling block at Lauzon, near Levis, early this morning was destroyed by fire. Thirty men, women and children had to escape into the cold night in their under garments. The blaze was started by an over-heated stove.

Quebec, Jan. 4—Ivan Sullenduc, a Roumanian, lost his life in a fire last night in the employes' residence at the Brookside dairy farm, five miles from this city. The loss is about $10,000.

CALLS ON WOMEN TO URGE RECRUITS ALONG

Boston, Jan 4—The aid of women of British and Canadian birth in this state is sought by Captain K., D. Marlatt, of the British and Canadian recruiting mission in Massachusetts. He said that the mission was obtaining from twenty to thirty recruits a day at headquarters here, but that 500 to 700 were needed within a week. He urged the women to "bring or send" at least one recruit each.

SHIP AFIRE; SPEEDING TO PORT FOR SAFETY

A Pacific Port, Jan. 4—The outlook for the Japanese freighter, Shinyo Maru, No. 2, which is speeding, under convoy of an American vessel, toward this port with a fierce fire raging in her hold, appeared more favorable, according to latest reports here. The fire has been partially checked. The steamer is expected to arive here tomorrow morning.

Elections in Spain.

Madrid, Jan. 4—King Alfonso yesterday signed a decree dissolving the Cortes. Elections will be held on Feb. 17, and the new chamber will meet on March 11.

THE HARTLAND FIRE

C. E. L. Jarvis & Son, local fire insurance agents, carry insurance to the extent of $600 on the Taylor building and $1,000 on the stock of E. T. G. Carr, who occupied part of the building, and $2,500 on the Simms' building.

Cold Wave Passes; 30 Above Today

Lower Reading of Mercury, However, is Forecast forTomorrow; Blizzard Grips City and Ties up Traffic

After nine days of below zero weather, the cold wave has passed, but the weather probabilities are for colder tomorrow than today.

The temperature yesterday registered fourteen degrees below zero, but during the night began to rise, and this morning it registered thirty degrees above. Naturally great relief was felt.

The snow storm, which swept over the city yesterday continued all night and increased in violence until it developed into an old-time blizzard. Nine inches of snow fell and the wind reached a maximum velocity of forty miles an hour. As a result the snow drifted greatly and traffic throughout the city was partially tied up.

The Trains.

The heavy snow storm did more in the tieing up of the railway service than has any other storm this winter. Freight trains were derailed in the island yard and switches were snowed under. The outgoing trains were very late getting away and the incoming trains very late in arriving. As a result of the tieup, the Union station last evening was practically filled with people waiting to go away, waiting for friends arriving, or accompanying friends who intended going out.

The Halifax train, due to leave the city at 11.30 o'clock last night, did not get away until 7.30 o'clock this morning. The Boston train, due to leave the city at 5.40 p. m., did not get away until 12.30 this morning. The Boston, due to arrive at 10.30 o'clock last night, did not arrive until 5 o'clock this morning. The Halifax train, due this morning at 6.15, was three hours and thirty minutes late. The Montreal train, due at 12.05 o'clock this afternoon, is reported four hours late and the Boston, due to arrive at 11.55, is reported three hours and thirty minutes late.

Car Service Was Demoralized.

Public service and the elements came to grips in what was the worst storm of the season, as the elements won a victory but it was short lived. Street railway men say that in all their experience they cannot recall worse conditions. Before five o'clock the schedule had been seriously affected. The intense cold of the last few days had frosted the rails; the blinding snow of yesterday was plied into the ruts and a smooth glossy surface was presented which the car wheels could not grip. The net result of the efforts to keep up a service were that most of the cars had at least one motor burned out and no schedule could be maintained. The sweepers and the entire staff under the direction of Superintendent Hazen McLean were hard at work, but the storm was too much.

It was hoped that the six o'clock rush could be handled but the storm had then reached an intense stage; the cars could not proceed and it was found that the only thing to do was to take the cars to the barn and hand the line over to the clearing crews under Mr. McLean. This was done and the service was completely out of business. The only cars that could make headway were the sweepers and these only because the heavy brushes swept away the snow. This had no sooner been done, however, than the rails were again filled in practically stalling any cars that attempted to follow.

Mr. McLean turned out his entire crew and the sweepers and men with pick and shovels went at it. On going over the lines for a second and third time a repetition of previous conditions were found. Efforts were concentrated on the main line and when the storm had abated the cars started out this morning on the main line and Haymarket Square and the schedule was maintained on these two sections today.

West St. John and Fairville, beyond the Junction, were badly clogged, but before dinner the first car had gotten through. East St. John and Glen Falls were then attended to and part of the line has been cleared by noon, while it was expected that the entire servic would hav been restored by the afternoon.

MOTORS BURNED IN $150,000 FIRE

Philadelphia, Jan. 3—Fire late tonight destroyed the four story garage of the Quaker City Cab Company, with loss estimated at $150,000. Sixty-seven motor trucks and busses belonging to the American International Shipping Corporation were consumed by the flames.

MUNITIONS DEPARTMENT IN AMERICAN CABINET

Washington, Jan. 4—A department of munitions under a new cabinet head known as the secretary of munitions is proposed in a bill introduced by Chairman Chamberlain of the military committee as a result of its investigation of war operations.

HAD HARD TIME TO GET HOME

Fairville People in City in Blizzard Had it Rough — Train Party Arrived at 1 a. m. and Then Had Some Walking

The storm of last evening was very severe in Fairville and vicinity. About five o'clock the car service became demoralized and soon after the tracks filled in several places with good sized snow drifts.

Many persons working in the city sought shelter with friends and a few walked home, but the experience was a trying one, as testified to by frozen ears. A few caught the Fredericton train, which ordinarily takes about fifteen minutes to run to Fairville, but last night she was almost a half hour.

About a dozen men and an equal number of ladies waited for the Boston train, due to leave about seven o'clock. The officials at the station could give no hope as the engine had been snowed in on a siding and it seemed impossible to move her. The suburbanites made themselves as comfortable as possible, fortifying themselves every hour with hot tea or coffee at the lunch counter, but when ten o'clock came they felt it was time to try another means of spending the night than in the decidedly chilly atmosphere of the union station.

Accordingly the various hotels were called by telephone but one and all reported a full house. There was nothing left them but to walk Fairvilleward or remain for the train and the latter seemed the wiser plan.

After eleven o'clock the engine was started and brought round to make up the Boston train and the long suffering passengers made a rush for the cars, only to be informed that the heating system had frozen up and would have to be thawed out before a start could be made.

Back to the lukewarm radiators and chilly air of the station trooped the storm-stayed ones, until, about 12.20, word was received that 'a'll aboard" was in order.

About Simms' factory a stop was made, and it was said the engine was taking water. After a twenty minute pause it was suggested that this feed pipe must have become connected with the brewery, the train seemed so content to stay by the drink. Finally the Fairville crowd, about one o'clock, decided to walk the remainder of the way and took to the drifts. One of the party had a long walk out the Manawagonish road after this experience and another was heading for Randolph when last seen.

Street car service in Fairville was resumed before noon today.

BLOW UP AS SOON AS TAKEN TO SEA.

San Francisco, Jan. 4—Three interned German sailing ships in the port of Calete Buena, Chile, will blow up as soon as they are taken to sea, according to Captain Rasmussen, captain of a steamer that has arrived here from that port. Dynamite bombs and cartridges placed around the masts of the ships, he said, would explode as soon as the masts begin to work. He said he had seen the bombs and cartridges and that the Germans boasted of it.

REDUCING PASSENGER SERVICE ON TR

Montreal, Jan. 4—Railway time ta and notices issued to the public for January 6 will announce the reduction in the passenger service, which will go into effect on Sunday, on the recommendation of the Canadian Railway Association for national defence.

THREE NAMED FOR THE POST IN WASHINGTON.

London, Jan. 4—It is suggested editorially by the Daily Chronicle that either Viscount Grey, former foreign secretary; Earl Reading, lord chief justice, or J. Austen Chamberlain would be acceptable as ambassador at Washington.

Champion Wins Again.

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 3—Ralph Taberski, world's champion billiard champion, defeated Ralph Greenleaf, 151 to 104, in the second block of their championship match here tonight. Taberski leads 307 to 198.

SCHOONER MONA, FROM SAINT JOHN, IN SERIOUS FIX IN BUZZARD'S BAY

Woods Hole, Mass., Jan. 4—Capt. Dayton and two men from the three-masted schooner Mona, ice-bound in Buzzard's Bay, walked four miles over the ice today to Pasque Island, seeking assistance. The skipper reported that the vessel had only one day's provisions for her five men and that her fuel was exhausted.

The Mona, bound from St. John, N. B., for Saunderstown, R.I., was caught on last Saturday midway between Pasque Island and New Bedford, and although three anchors were let down, Captain Dayton said the vessel was gradually working toward the island and probably would be a total wreck unless there was an immediate improvement in weather conditions. He said that two other schooners, apparently in the same predicament, could be seen from the Mona.