FOOD CONDITIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN AT CRITICAL STAGE

President of Board of Agriculture Tells Farmers They Must Produce More.

WILL RATION HORSES

Food Controller Says He Will Take Over All the Surplus Potatoes.

London, Feb. 1.—Addressing a meeting of farmers here today Rowland Edmund Prothero, president of the board of agriculture, said the country was in a most critical position and approaching the rapids. If the farmers did not assist him and Baron Rhondda, the food controller, the country would be swept over, said Mr. Prothero.

The farmers were told that they had to make drastic changes in their methods. There were only enough oats to feed working horses on reduced rations after making allowance for milling stocks, Mr. Prothero continued. There was no concentrated food for cattle feeding and this shortage must last at least until this time next year

Mr. Prothero advised the farmers to grow all the potatoes they could. Baron Rhondda, who also spoke, said, as to the wheat situation: "The position in three or four months may be serious indeed." Mr. Prothero said he was afraid all carriage horses which had not been sent out to grass would have to be killed, while hunters would have to be sent to grass and kept there.

Baron Rhondda said that if the farmers only could get a million acres of potatoes under cultivation this year, there would be no fear of starvation, and by starvation, he added, "I mean that starvation which is followed by disease and death."

Baron Rhondda also thought that the people of this country would be able to receive at least fifty per cent. more food for each person than the Germans are supposed to be getting, but do not get. He announced from Nov. 1, next, he would take over the whole surplus potato crop of Great Britain and that minimum price would range from five pounds sterling to six pounds, ten shillings a ton.

Half-Million Dollar Fire Destroys a Winnipeg Block

Winnipeg, Feb. 1.—Starting, apparently from an overheated cook stove on the third storey, fire early this morning completely gutted the old block on the corner of Main street and McDermott avenue, formerly known as the Canadian Pacific Telegraph block. One Chinaman refused to jump into the life net from the top floor, and apparently was burned to death. There were no casualties, altho four firemen were on the roof when it collapsed from the weight of ice which accumulated in the intense frost.

The damage is estimated at $500,000. Chevrier and Son, furriers, had a stock valued at $200,000, while other tenants carried between them $100,000 worth of goods. Most of the loss is covered by insurance. The building, it is thought, will be a total loss. It was owned by the Royal Bank.

ARGENTINA NEARS WAR WITH KAISER

Buenos Aires Government Recalls Military Attaches From Berlin and Vienna.

BREACH OVER SINKING

Destruction of Steamer in Mediterranean Constitutes Unfriendly Act.

Buenos Aires, Feb. 1.—The minister of war has recalled Argentina's military attaches from Berlin and Vienna. In political circles the action is regarded as significant and connected with the sinking of the Argentine steamship Ministr Irriendo, Jan. 20. The Argentine minister to France has confirmed the fact that the steamship was flying the Argentine flag when sunk. The government accounts the sinking as an unfriendly act, even if the use of the home flag was unauthorized. The assumption in polical circles here is that Germany does not intend to keep her promises in regard to Argentina's shipping.

The situation here is tense and the authorities are maintaining more than their usual silence on the subject, but several events at the government house late toddy lead to the belief that the government at last is preparing to take an important step.

The foreign office today replied to the notes of Peru and Uruguay, which notified Argentina of the rupture of relations with Germany, and that of Brazil, informing Argentina of her sister country's state of war with the central powers.

Argentina, in the three notes sent in reply, expressed her approbation and warmest sympathy with the three other South American countries.

These notes and the simultaneous recall of the military attaches from Berlin and Vienna are regarded as indicating that the country is verging on a crisis in its international relations. It also was announced today that an army officer, who has been acting as correspondent in Berlin for La Nacion, also has been recalled by the minister of war.

D. McCALLUM ELECTED

Is Head of Federation of Labor of British Columbia.

Vancouver, Feb. 1.—Duncan McCallum of Vancouver was elected president of the British Columbia Federation of Labor for 1918 yesterday. McCallum is business agent of the mechanics' union and is a leader among organized labor. A. S. Wells, retiring secretary-treasurer, was re-elected to the office by acclamation.

The City of Vancouver was selected as the next meeting place of the convention.

A resolution opposing the importation of indentured or other kinds of Asiatic coolie labor and recommending the support of the organizations of the Asiatics now here was carried after considerable discussion.

VETERANS WIN BILLIARDS.

Headquarters G.W.V.A. billiard team defeated the base hospital team in a fast game on the Broadview "Y" tables, all wins going to every member of the G.W.V.A. team, except one. The G.W.V.A. men, with their scores, were as follows: Howard (captain), Coyle, 100-85; Sergt. Benson, 100-84; Haskins, 85-100; Preet, 100-95; Palmer, 100-26.

YORK COUNTY —AND— SUBURBS

COUNCIL SESSION CHIEFLY ROUTINE

County Legislators Raise Major Brunton's Salary Three Hundred Dollars.

The commissioners for the industrial home at Newmarket appointed by the county council for this year are James Stewart of Scarboro and James Moorshead of Whitchurch.

The equalization committee met yesterday and on the year's assessment of $58,930,139 divided the amount among the various municipalities.

Letters were read from H. H. Williams, president of the patriotic and Red Cross campaign, thanking the county for its grant of $300,000, and one from the secretary of the Ontario Good Roads Association asking permission to use the council chamber for a meeting on Feb. 27-28 and March 1.

Road Estimates Required.

A resolution was brought in that the county good roads superintendent be asked to prepare estimates of expenditures for county roads for 1918, and that the same be in the hands of the deputy minister of public highways of Ontario not later than May 1.

The standing committee on education brought in its report, which was adopted. P. W. Pearson and J. T. Stewart were appointed delegates to the Provincial Trustees' Association in April next. The education department was to be asked to provide improved closet accommodation for rural schols. The following amounts were to be paid to the continuation schools and schools having fifth classes: Sutton, $200; Stouffville, $200; No. 13, Gwillimbury, $200, Woodbridge, $100.

Magistrates' Salary Raised.

The standing committee on bylaws and legislation brought in a report which was adopted. This report provided for an increase in the salary of Police Magistrate Brunton from $1500 a year to $1800. All registry offices in the county were to be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m. During the absence of Lieut.-Col. T. H. Lennox on active service overseas the legal work for the county has been done by the firm of Lennox & Lennox. The committee recommended that besides continuing Col. Lennox's salary of $500 a year the firm of Lennox & Lennox be paid $500 a year for their services, same to date from February, 1916.

NORTH TORONTO SCHOOLS KNIT MANY PAIRS OF SOX

One Hundred Pairs Made by Pupils in Brown School and Sent to Soldiers.

The schools in North Toronto and district report an interesting week in routine work the rather uneventful otherwise. Class attendance has been up to the average, notwithstanding the cold weather. In Brown School one hundred pairs of sox that were knit by the pupils were sent to the 123rd Battalion. The Home and School Association supplies the wool. The pupils are very much interested in the work, and it continues with increased popularity as the weeks pass.

A new room will be opened in the school next week, which will be occupied by the senior first class, to which a teacher has not yet been assigned. With the opening of this room all the rooms of the school, twenty-three in number, will be occupied.

In the Eglinton school a new room was also opened which will be occupied by the junior third class Brown school teacher will later be appointed. This is the second room in the new wing to be occupied; the other is devoted to kindergarten work. The school is eagerly awaiting the decision of the school board to open two more rooms in the near future which will be devoted to domestic science and manual training. A good work would be accomplished in this locality with the opening of these two departments, not only for those in attendance during the day, but for the young people of the neighborhood who would profit by the instruction of night classes.

The military authorities have asked for the Davisville Avenue school for the use and re-education of soldiers. It is conveniently situated to the Orthopoedic Hospital, being but a few doors removed. The question is still under consideration.

MISSIONS IN FAR NORTH.

Women's Auxiliary of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Runnymede, Hears Address.

At yesterday afternoon's meeting of the women's auxiliary of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Runnymede, the large gathering of members was addressed by Miss Nothal of Bishop Stringer's Carcross School, diocese of Yukon. Her address was quite lengthy and was confined to missionary movements in the far north.

CHOIR LEADER HONORED.

H. S. Martindale Banqueted at High Park Avenue Methodist Church.

The congregation of High Park Avenue Methodist Church tendered a banquet in the basement of the church last night to H. S. Martindale, choir leader, who is resigning that position to join the colors. He will be succeeded by Geo. Coutts. He was the recipient of many gifts from the various church organizations. In addition to necessary wearing apparel given him by the Red Cross Society, the board of management gave him a toilet set and the choir made him a present of a gold wrist watch. Dr. Kayler was chairman, Rev. R. H. Bell, minister, spoke briefly. Much credit is due Mr. Martindale for the manner in which he has directed the choir, which has been successful in raising over $1000 for patriotic purposes.

COLDEST ON RECORD.

Old Residents of Earlscourt Have Never Experienced Such a Winter.

Fourteen degrees below zero was recorded at 8 o'clock last evening in the Earlscourt section. Yesterday Mrs. Chas. O'Hara, Fairbank, whose relatives and those of her husband, are the oldest residents in the district, stated that her father, aged 73, and her husband's father, aged 80, say they have never experienced a winter such as the present.

INSANE SOLDIER'S WIFE IS DEAD IN HOSPITAL

Four Little Children Are Left With Neighbor in Earlscourt Section —All Under Ten.

Much sympathy is expressed in the Earlscourt section at the death of Mrs. James Duns, 407 Bartlett avenue, which occurred yesterday in the Cottage Hospital, Rusholme road, from heart failure, at the comparatively early age of 38 years. The late Mrs. Duns is survived by four young children — May, aged 10; Willie, aged 8; Jennie, aged 5; and Ruth, aged nine weeks.

Mrs. James Duns

A sad feature of the case is the recent removal to the insane asylum of the husband, Pte. James Duns, suffering from nervous breakdown. Pte. Duns, who enlisted the first year of the war, was employed as guard at the internment camp at Kapuskasing, and it is thought that the strain has affected his nerves. He is a native of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, and aged about 40 years.

The children are at present being looked after by Mrs. Gourley, a neighbor. The only relatives of the late Mrs. Duns, who was born in India, are Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Jones, 281 Oakwood avenue, an uncle and aunt.

The family have been long in the section and are members of Davenport Road Presbyterian Church.

AGITATION FOR NEW EARLSCOURT LIBRARY

Present Building is Said to be Inadequate and in Bad State of Repair.

Owing to the condition of the Earlscourt Branch Public Library, and its inadequacy to accommodate the ever-increasing volume of business, an agitation is at present on foot to secure a library in keeping with a section which has proved its patriotism and loyalty in a manner to win the admiration of the Dominion.

The building at present in use, an old frame structure, standing on posts, was the first Methodist Church, which was loaned temporarily to the library board by Rev. Peter Bryce over five years ago, when the present Central Methodist Church was opened. Many appeals for a larger building have been made since the inauguration of the branch, but without avail, the civic authorities pleading "no money" for libraries, altho a handsome and palatial library building has since been erected in Wychwood, which, according to the statement of the library officials, does not cater to a reading public nearly as large as the Earlscourt section.

During the fifteen hours each week which the branch in Earlscourt is open the two, and sometimes three, assistants, with Miss Bates, librarian, are kept busy, every minute of the time. The leaky roof and draughty floor during the long winter has been particularly trying upon the assistants and patrons alike, and the agitation, it is said, will be maintained until action is taken by the city council.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR SOLDIERS.

Wychwood, Bracondale and Dovercourt Men Will Be Guests.

There is a jolly good time in store for the returned soldiers, their wives and children, of the Wychwood, Bracondale and Dovercourt districts, in the St. Clair Avenue Methodist Church, Rushton road and St. Clair avenue, on Thursday evening next, when a banquet, concert and presentation will be tendered them.

The event, which is in reality the deferred Christmas tree, will begin at 6 p.m., from which time until 7 p.m. refreshments will be served, and from 7 to 9 p.m. there will be a concert, after which there will be a distribution of presents of all kinds, the most of them serviceable and good. More than $700 has been raised for the occasion.

BOUQUETS FOR COUNCIL.

The county council chamber has been gay with beautiful carnations during the session of the council, donated fresh every morning from the greenhouse of Fred Miller, Lauder avenue, Toronto, who is a member of the council as reeve of York Township.

SCORE'S TIE SALE STILL INTERESTING IN ASSORTMENTS AND SPECIAL PRICES.

The head of the haberdashery department says: "We have added fifty dozen more ties to the special sale lots for today," and that just means that, as good and satisfactory as was the choice the day this exceptional neckwear was announced, that really the values are greater today than it was then. Fine English and American Ties, regular one-fifty, for $1.05; regular one-twenty-five, for 85c; regular one dollar, for 65c; regular seventy-five cents, for 45c. Choose today. R. Score & Son, Limited, 77 West King street.

LIMITLESS POTASH AVAILABLE IN CANADA

Company Starts Up in Toronto Which Will Be Able to Produce Substance From Rock.

Further freedom from mercantile obligations to German trade has been accomplished in Canada, the latest case being that occasioned by the venture of the National Potash Corporation, Limited, of 178 Spadina avenue. Hitherto Germany has held the market of potash, a substance absolutely necessary to the proper growth of all vegetables, pulses and cereals. This has been because she was able to mine millions of tons of the substance from rock salt shale indigenous only to Germany and Galician Austria, no other country in the world having these rock deposits.

Very recently, thru the ingenious chemical tests made by a Canadian engineer, a process has been discovered whereby ore from vast tracts of rocks in this country can be made to produce real potash by means of a chemical process patented by the National Potash Corporation. The possibilities of this latest discovery are said to be limitless.

ENGINES AND CARS FREEZE TO TRACKS

Continued Cold Weather Makes Regular Arrivals and Departures Impossible.

The cold weather of yesterday and the night before not only delayed train arrivals, but also partly demoralized outgoing services. Just to what extent this occurred has not been learned, but several trains were missing from their tracks ten minutes and more after the time they were listed for departure. A number of the trains also experienced heavy weather getting out of the depot, and some of them throttled at full steam at least a dozen times before making their way out, moving 20 yards ahead and reversing. During the early hours of the morning fifteen engines had frozen stiff to the rails. The cars also suffered in the same degree. Gangs of men could be seen in different sections shoveling the snow from the rails. "The ice is the greatest hindrance to the movement of these trains," said one engineer. "It gets all over and around the rails and the wheels just simply slip around on the same bit, and you can't get a move into the old girl."

Freight trains did run, but they were few and far between. Altogether they brought in about 115 cars of merchandise for the local trade.

Stalled in Snow.

The G. T. R. Chicago express was stalled in the snow at Brantford, and the C. P. R. Buffalo train was held up by the iced rails at Sunnyside. Superintendent Farrell of the G.T.R. stated that provided moderate weather set in to remain normal traffic conditions would soon prevail. It was, he said, the hardest winter the railroad men of Ontario had ever known, and the outlook for a good mild spell was not the brightest.

The C.N.R. Winnipeg service was canceled for the day, and the C.P.R. Winnipeg express, due in at 4.10 p.m., did not arrive until near midnight. The G.T.R. from Markham, due in at 10.30 a.m., did not arrive until nearly 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The schedule for yesterday read as follows:

G. T. R.

From.	Due.	Exp't'd.	Arr'd.
Midland	10.30 am.	10.30 am.	10.30 am.
Markham	10.30 am.	4.30 pm.	5.00 pm.
Chicago	8.50 am.	.....	12.10 pm.
Chicago	3.55 pm.	7.30 pm.	.....
Montreal	8.55 pm.	11.25 pm.	.....
Detroit	10.30 pm.	11.20 pm.	11.30 pm.

C. N. R.

From.	Due.	Exp't'd.	Arr'd.
Winnipeg	5.00 pm.	Canceled.	

C. P. R.

From.	Due.	Exp't'd.	Arr'd.
Chicago	8.40 am.	.....	1.35 pm.
New York	8.30 am.	.....	.....
Boston	12.03 pm.	.....	2.25 pm.
New York	5.38 pm.	6.30 pm.	.....
Montreal	6.20 pm.	.....	8.20 pm.
Sudbury	6.45 pm.	.....	6.45 pm.
Chicago	5.15 pm.	.....	5.15 pm.
Montreal	6.40 pm.	7.20 pm.	.....
Chicago	11.05 pm.	.....	.....

The weather is expected to moderate slightly during the day. There is no promise of really milder weather, and anything may be expected within the next three days, a thaw being the least probable occurrence in view.

HAMILTON NEWS

HAMILTON TO DIM STORE WINDOWS

Order to This Effect Goes Into Operation on Wednesday.

Hamilton, Feb. 1. — Store windows in Hamilton will be darkened after next Tuesday. The recent joint order of Sir Henry Drayton, power controller, and Sir Adam Beck, chairman of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, calls for the above restriction as well as the cutting off of all exterior and entrance lighting other than that necessary for public safety.

"We will enforce this new order," said the engineer, "but think it would be better if all stores closed at 5 p.m. during the next two months and at six o'clock thereafter until next winter."

There will be no official issue of the order, which goes into effect on Feb. 5, it being held that the notices in the press are sufficient.

Economize on Coal.

Economize is the motto that City Clerk Kent is handing out to the citizens who are fortunate enough to have some coal in their bins. "If your supply will not last thru the winter close up part of the house and live in one or two rooms," is the advice of the city clerk.

Rebuild Central Market.

The agitation to rebuild the central market is increasing here and when the city council meets on Monday night to decide what steps to take in the matter they will be presented with a petition signed by thousands of ratepayers who are in favor of the action. The petition is now being circulated thruout the city by the butchers, who stated that they have approached very few people who have refused to affix their signatures.

There is also a possibility that representatives of the various women's clubs and organizations in the city will also petition the council to go ahead with the building and not wait until after the war.

REINFORCE SWISS TROOPS.

Paris, Feb. 1.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Berne says the reinforcements of Swiss troops on the Swiss border has been decided upon by the federal council because of the interior and exterior situation. A brigade of infantry and detachments of cavalry and pioneers have been added to the forces.

EXTENSION IS CONDITIONAL.

Ottawa, Feb. 1.—Amendment has been made to the military service regulations in regard to appeals from the decisions of local tribunals. The amendment provides that in case of an extension of time for appealing having been given, the extension is given conditional on the man performing any military duty he may have been ordered to perform.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

INFANTRY.

Killed in action—W. P. Thompson, Merritt, B.C.; H. B. Sine, Niagara Falls, Ont.; C. R. Gibbs, Lints, Portland, Ogn.; J. A. Partridge, Kamloops, B.C.; E. W. H. Chichester, Terrade, B.C.; W. Gurney, England; R. Park, Hamilton; A. H. Lindsay, Los Angeles, Cal.; G. R. McNeilager Winnipeg; R. J. McLean, Winnipeg; P. T. McCray, Alpena, Mich.; C. E. Stuart, Vancouver; H. L. Simmons, Fort George, B.C.

Died of wounds—W. R. Taylor, Scotland; E. F. Martindale, England; W. H. McNamara, Brantford, Ont.; W. Moss, England; E. Goliat, Switzerland; L. R. Gauthier, Otterburne, Man.

Died—R. B. Turrell, Milton, Ont.

Presumed to have died—F. Ellis, Vancouver.

Prisoner of war—D. Stewart, Scotland; V. S. Liddicoatt, Cranbrook, B.C.; W. H. Hughes, Wales; C. D. Burrell, England.

Died whilst prisoner—J. Monson, Monitor, Alb.

Missing—Lieut. J. O. Beattie, Vancouver; 101997, H. Pimlott, 2540 St. Clair avenue, Toronto.

Wounded and missing—J. Desantos, Hays City, Kas.; W. Wendland, Ottawa.

Wounded—W. R. MacKenzie, Freeport, Ills.; J. G. McAfee, Deseronto; J. J. Garrison, Sydenham, Ont.; S. R. Taylor, Lower Falls, Mass.; J. M. W. Morrison, Baddeck, N.S.; C. A. Chapman, Victoria Co., N.B.; T. Hincks, Calgary; H. E. Tobin, New Haven, Conn.; W. Herridge, Orillia; F. W. Hill, Okotoks, Alb.; W. Cooper, England; 799452, E. Bamford, 215 Emerson avenue, Toronto; L. Willard, Grand Prairie, B.C.; A. Grant, Hercules, Alb.; C. M. Broadbent, Vancouver; W. J. Williams, England; L. Murphy, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; 451847, H. Griffery, Hamilton; W. Lynham, Burk's Falls; C. R. Iles, Midland; G. F. Singleton, Port Arthur, Ont.; P. McTavish, Arthur, Ont.; J. A. Howe, Chatham; J. E. Harrison, England; T. H. Tatersall, Winnipeg; C. Lawrence, England; J. Cartmell, England; J. H. A. Carriere, Montreal; 767053, J. J. Luney, 153 Defoe street, Toronto; E. Andrus, Galt, Ont.; G. Armstrong, Simcoe, Ont.; W. Young, Doon, Ont.; A. E. Gramson, Harris, Sask.; F. Bates, Victoria.

Burns—C. J. King, Montreal.

Gassed—J. C. R. Smith, Battleford, Sask.

Cancel report gassed—J. M. Ratcliffe, Waseca, Sask.

Ill—J. P. McGurk, Montreal; J. Taylor, Scotland; R. B. Lockhart, Montreal.

DIVISIONAL TRAIN.

Wounded—R. Cooke, Amherst, N.S.

SERVICE CORPS.

Wounded—G. Birch, Southwest Lot No. 16, P.E.I.; E. L. Byers, Southampton, Ont.

CYCLIST CORPS.

Wounded—H. C. D'Almaine, Wolfville, N.S.; 2150, A. C. Falkner, 42 Caroline avenue, Toronto.

MEDICAL SERVICES.

Ill—J. O. Reynolds, London, Ont.

CONSTRUCTION CORPS.

Died—T. M. Williams, Smithville, Tenn.

MOUNTED RIFLES.

Killed in action—109548, E. W. Philips, 73 Arundel avenue, Toronto.

Died—157625, W. F. Lyle, 84 Defoe st., Toronto; R. Cooley, Victoria.

Wounded—R. Marlow, Talbot, Alta.

Ill—W. G. H. Charlton, Owen Sound.

RAILWAY TROOPS.

Ill—J. C. Clarke, England.

ARTILLERY.

Killed in action—91090, R. Lavenbien, Hamilton.

Died of wounds—348728, B. McDonald, 174 Langley avenue, Toronto.

Wounded—A. L. Booth, Montreal; G. Wisheart, Ireland.

Ill—W. R. Buckingham, Claresholm, Alta.; L. A. Sparling, Swan Lake, Man.

ENGINEERS.

Died—193086, W. T. Jones, Hamilton.

Wounded—500362, W. Belle, Hamilton; H. B. Keslick, Cresswell, Ont.

FORESTRY CORPS.

Accidentally killed—A. McPherson, Schuyler, N.B.

Died—A. Labelle, St. Leonard, N.B.; 2498738, W. A. Audsley, 11 Erie Terrace, Toronto; A. MacGowan, Scotland.

Wounded—O. K. Stonehouse, Great Village, N.S.

To Prevent the Grip.
Colds cause Grip — LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

WRONG INFORMAITON CAUSED LOSS OF SALE

Item in Newspaper Said Price of Potatoes Had Been Fixed by Food Controller.

The following letter has been received by The World:

In justice to the wholesale potato merchants of Toronto I cannot allow an article which appeared in one of the evening papers last night to pass uncriticized.

One of the paragraphs in the article stated: "The maximum price which the wholesaler is permitted to charge is $2.25 a bag, or about 37 cents a peck." This statement caused one dealer alone the loss of a twenty-five bag order, and it is absolutely untrue, as potatoes have been selling on the wholesales for some time now at $2.35 to $2.50 a bag, and the wholesaler cannot afford to sell them for less, owing to the prices he has to pay and the loss he sustains thru frost, loss of bags, etc.

There is no need for potatoes to be as high-priced as they are and have been this winter, but it is not the wholesale potato merchants' fault. In the first place, last fall, it was stated time after time, that the food controller was going to limit the price of potatoes to $1.25 a bag retail, which, of course, he could or did not do. But this unsettled condition as to price and the fact that producers would not sell below that figure placed the wholesaler in a very awkward position, as he could not put in his usual supply without the risk of incurring a big loss, and the severely cold weather has since made it almost impossible to get them in without a large percentage of waste thru frost.

So far, the food controller has not fixed the price of potatoes, and if he should do so, nobody would be more glad than the wholesale merchants, as they would then be able to buy and sell at a fair profit, and that is all they want. If anyone imagines there has been very much money made out of potatoes by the wholesalers this season, he is much mistaken, and would strongly recommend him to find out just what they are up against, handling potatoes, before he judges them.

C. V. W.

ADVISORY BOARD DISGUSTED; QUITS

Brantford Volunteer Fuel Commitee Overwhelmed With Abuse.

Special to The Toronto World.

Brantford, Feb. 1.—Disgusted with the avalanche of knocks which had descended upon them, the civic fuel advisory committee, which has had charge of the distribution of coal in this city during the past few weeks, this afternoon decided to close up the civic supervision, disbanding as a body, so that, commencing with Saturday morning, the coal distribution of the city will be back in the hands of the coal dealers.

During the past few weeks, since the city committee had charge, they hustled up supplies, and by means of the civic office saw that the supply was equitably distributed. They were attacked on all sides abused by the people who were in need of coal because they could not always supply it, by those who had coal because of the expense to the city, by the farmers because they kept the coal for city needs only, and the coal dealers because they interfered with deliveries to customers.

The climax was reached this morning, and at a meeting this afternoon the committee disbanded. The staff of the civic office, which had only been kept on duty for the past few days by persuasion on the part of the committee, refused longer to remain on duty. The unpaid members of the committee decided that they, too, had had enough.

The situation thus reverts back to the last few days of December, when there were no supplies on hand and coal dealers were filling the orders of their customers and refusing deliveries to people actually without a bit of coal. There are seven cars of coal on the T., H. and B., having been tied up by the wreck, but it is hoped that they will be thru by tomorrow. The committee feels that a fuel controller is an absolute need for this city, but so far there are no applicants for the position. The city must now rely on the dealers, who for the most part have fought civic control all thru, it being found necessary at times to call in the police to have civic orders only honored.

ISSUES APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT

(Continued from Page One).

revolution, and unless a more just and reasonable attitude is adopted I am seriously apprehensive that an irreparable break between an important section of industrial labor and the government will result."

Appeals to Government.

After reviewing the question at issue—the opposition of the engineers to the manpower bill, which Mr. Henderson desired them to abandon—and declaring that the engineers were merely asking a continuation of the procedure instituted by Premier Lloyd George himself, Mr. Henderson said:

"I earnestly appeal to the government that they should at once agree to a separate conference. Their present attitude is leading rapidly to trouble. They are risking the national cause for a point of procedure."

Mr. Henderson added that his knowledge of the history of the controversy convinced him that labor was justified in its stand, and continued:

"In the past labor has responded with real patriotism, fully and freely. Is it too much to appeal to the patriotism of the government? I strongly urge the government to display a more reasonable part. Hasty measures of the kind contemplated may not only embarrass those of us who are trying to promote a moral and political offensive on the part of the working classes and destroy their unity; they also may give to the reactionary forces further opportunities to divide and weaken our efforts. Democratic diplomacy has begun. British labor, first of all, formulated its war aims. The premier then declared his acceptance of the governing principles of our war aims, and President Wilson went even further in the direction we desire to see governments moving, and affirmed with great force and clearness the principles we laid down."

Reverting to his declaration that an immediate peace was the greatest need of the world, but an honorable and democratic peace, Mr. Henderson continued:

"Peace must be made on these terms, and no other. That is our policy. It will be presented as a moral ultimatum to the governments from an organized democracy in all the belligerent governments. I appeal in all earnestness to the workers not to wreck this great triumph of the international working class movement in the field of diplomacy by a precipitate action which can only end in discrediting and defeating the democratic cause."

VETERANS GO SOUTH TO HELP CAMPAIGN

Major W. C. N. Marriott of Davisville Orthopoedic Hospital, left Toronto Friday evening for Columbus, Ohio, in charge of 20 returned wounded heroes, who are taking part in the Columbus War Chest Campaign, to be held in that city this week. These include a man who was nine months a prisoner in Germany, a D.D. from one of the Canadian universities, who had his right leg shot off, and Sergt.-Maj. Fraser, a veteran who has been in most of the battles from St. Julien to Vimy Ridge. The following men are in the party: Sergt.-Maj. Fraser of the original 15th Battalion; Pte. A. H. Bullock, taken prisoner at St. Julien April, 1916; Pte. Gordon Harding, of the 26th Battalion; Pte. W. L. Kelly, of the 70th Battalion; Pte. Alf. K. Herman, wounded at Vimy Ridge; Pte. H. G. Turland, of the 11th Battery; Pte. E. Marshall, of the 16th Battalion; Pte. R. Ratcliffe, of the 2nd contingent; Pte. W. H. Carleton, of the 15th Battalion; Lance-Corp. G. T. Murdock, Sergt. H. J. Boyle, of the 73rd Battalion; Bombardier Edmonds, of the 23rd Battery; Pte. F. B. Houston, of the 23rd Battery; Pte. S. J. Beardmore; Pte. T. Hedges, of the 18th Battalion; Pte. R. Andrews, of the 75th Battalion; Corp. W. H. Smith, of the Scouts' Battalion; Pte. W. E. Stackhouse, and Corp. G. Secord, of the 3rd Field Ambulance.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

The German military authorities are assuming control in cities affected by the general strike, and have begun to suppress the demonstrators. The commandant of Brandenburg, which includes Berlin, has ordered the people to refrain from attending public meetings, and has acquainted them of his intentions to fire on these gatherings. If the strikers are without arms, as is probable, they can do nothing unless the soldiers in garrison make common cause with them. Owing to the iron discipline of the German army it is improbable that the soldiers will back them or refuse to fire on friends and relatives. The strike, however, shows by its large extent that the faith of the German people in their rulers is weakening, is going. After each failure, and each suppression by force, the strikers will feel not only more bitter towards the military rulers, but will study plans for making future demonstrations succeed. It was only after many riots in Petrograd that the revolution was successful.

* * *

The Italians, in their offensive, have advanced to the head of the Telago valley. This gorge runs northward thru the Tyrol towards the Rhine and the Danube. The capture of Monte di Val Bella has given the allies the advantage of approaching and passing the watershed. A counter-attack of the Austrians failed either to check the Italians or to drive them from their captured ground. Sardinian troops participated in the attacks and won distinction. The losses of the allies did not exceed 2,000, the number of prisoners taken. The losses of the Austrians are 7,000 to 8,000. The British and the French have apparently begun the training of the Italian forces according to the French system. It is adapted to the Latin genius.

* * *

The Bolsheviks, while losing ground in Finland, are gaining ground in Russian cities, having just captured Odessa, the port of the Ukraine, and Orenburg, a considerable railway junction on the Ural River, on the eastern fringe of Europe. These successes give the anarchists the control of large supplies of grain. The Rumanians have moved forward into Bessarabia and captured Kishinev, the capital. The prospects are that the Rumanians will be shortly fighting the Bolsheviks. The anarchists, by their military measures, show that they can act with promptitude and resolution. Their Red Guards have good discipline and the German staff officers lent Lenine, it is said, have drilled them well. The second pot-shot taken at Lenine in Petrograd also missed its mark. The negotiations of the Bolsheviks for peace have won them popular support in the Russian cities. The working classes of these towns consist mainly of Jews and the Russian Jew is the same as the German Jew.

* * *

The struggle against anarchy in Russia, meanwhile, will proceed. The anti-Bolsheviki have called an all-Russian congress for Moscow tomorrow and have invited representatives from the army, navy, workmen, peasants, zemstvos, boroughs and co-operative societies. The congress, it is planned, will elect a rival government to rule Russia until a new constituent assembly can decide on Russia's future. This news shows that the anti-Bolshevik forces have control of Moscow. Since the anarchists suppress the bad news to their cause, they have suppressed the loss of Moscow. The occupation of Russian cities, moreover, does not carry with it the occupation of the Russian soil, nor the defeat of the soldiers of the moderate faction in the field. It means the local supremacy of armed zealots.

* * *

The news that the Argentine Government has recalled the Argentine military attaches from Berlin and Vienna shows that the relations of the Latin republic and the central powers are verging on the point of severance. The present dispute has arisen over the sinking of the Argentine steamship, Ministro Irriendo. The Germans in destroying the ship, it is claimed, have broken faith. If the rupture between Argentina and Germany becomes complete, it will deprive the enemy of an important centre of propaganda and finance, and it will throw open the Argentine grain-growing resources to the allies. They can then mobilize the Argentine farmers for intensive food production.