

NEWS OF WORLD TOLD IN BRIEF

Russian General Staff issued Warning Against the Inaccuracy of Recent Reports of German Victory

ALLIES OCCUPY OSTEND?

Britain has 2,000,000 men under arms—Thaw Loses Fight Against Extradition—War Play in London.

The head of the Russian General Staff has issued a statement saying that owing to the malevolent reports concerning the condition and strategic positions of our armies, he thinks it fit to warn the Russian public against the partiality and inaccuracy of these reports.

There are persistent rumors at The Hague that the allies have occupied Ostend.

An airman of the Allies made successful attacks on the Germans in Belgium dropping twelve bombs on the Zeppelin sheds in Brussels. Yesterday evening another raid was made by a British naval airman on the German positions near Ostend. He set out in complete darkness and returned an hour later, having dropped nine bombs, which he is convinced caused considerable damage.

In an interview given to the representative of the Paris Humanite, the Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George Chancellor of the Exchequer says: "Before spring half a million fresh British soldiers will join those already in France and Belgium. England has at present more than 2,000,000 men under arms. Our monthly war expenditure is \$225,000,000.

Harry K. Thaw lost his fight in the Supreme Court of the United States against being extradited from the State of New Hampshire, to the State of New York. It was held that the prisoner should be turned over at once to the New York authorities.

"Der Tag" ("The Day") the play by Sir James Matthew Barrie, was produced at the London Coliseum yesterday. Two performances were given, and the play captured the unbroken attention of huge audiences.

The cable report that the first Canadian overseas divisions may go to the front by separate battalions to be merged with British troops instead of as a unit of its own is challenged by General Sam Hughes, who states he does not believe the story originated from authentic sources.

Plans of the American committee recently organized by American physicians and surgeons to relieve a reported shortage of medical supplies in Belgium, have received a setback because of the possibility that such supplies may be considered contraband of war by the belligerent nations.

Miss Cassie Dunn, seventy years old, and a lifelong resident of Cape Breton, was murdered in her residence on Queen street, North Sydney, yesterday evening. A negro named West, who lives opposite on the same street, is held on suspicion.

NEW YORK COTTON NOTICE DAYS.

New York, December 22.—December 28th will be the first notice day on the New York Cotton Exchange for January new style contracts, and the 31st instant will be first notice day for January, old style contracts. The next revision of quotations for the new style contracts will be December 24th, and for old style contracts December 30th.

NOTES ON PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Savannah Electric Company reports fairly good gains in gross and net income and surplus earnings for the twelve months ended October 31, 1914.

The Mississippi River Power Company reports gross earnings for the ten months ended October 31 at \$1,318,621, and net income at \$1,063,756, while surplus over charges was \$139,588.

The California Railway & Power Company, one of the underlying holding companies of the United Railways Investment Company, has issued a statement covering the first eighteen months of the corporation's existence, from December 18, 1913, to June 30, 1914, showing total income of \$284,901. Expenses amounted to \$21,167, leaving net income of \$563,734. After deducting dividends of \$692,797, there was left a profit-and-loss surplus of \$115,937.

The Interstate Utilities Co., a new telephone company recently organized, has filed with the county recorder at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, a mortgage for \$500,000 to cover a bond issue for the same amount. The document was dated October 1, and the Mechanics Loan and Trust Co. of Spokane, is trustee. The interest rate is 6 per cent. The mortgage recites that it covers franchises of the company and its equipment in detail, particularly of the Interstate Telephone Co., doing business in Spokane, Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. The proceeds from the sale of \$500,000 of the bonds are to be used in retiring the old obligations of the company taken over. The instrument is executed by Philip Hamlin, president, and Auston L. Hatch, secretary, and was filed for record by John T. Faulkner, of Spokane.

The Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania established a precedent when it upheld the right of a municipality to construct its own light plant to furnish electricity to light its streets and other public places and not for sale without obtaining the consent of the commission. The borough of Gettysburg filed a petition with the commission for a certificate of public convenience, evidencing the commission's approval of an electric light plant for its own use. A protest was entered by the Gettysburg Light Co. and a hearing was held to determine the preliminary question of the necessity of the borough to first obtain the approval of the commission before beginning operation. The commission holds that the borough as well as every other consumer of the Gettysburg Light Co. has the right, in the absence of a contract, to discontinue the service furnished by the light company and to light its streets by means of candles, oil or acetylene.

According to the returns received by the "Electrical World," the American lighting utilities did a 7 per cent. greater business this September than in September of the previous year. The August figures were approximately an 8 per cent. growth, while in July the growth in income was 8.1 per cent. and in output was 23.8 per cent. While the increase in gross earnings has remained practically constant during the war, the percentage rate of output growth has fallen considerably. This is without doubt owing to the enormous strides made in the domestic consumption of energy. The stability of this load and the large prices received therefor have made up to a large extent for the losses experienced in commercial load. Rather incomplete returns for October indicate a 7.4 per cent. increase in gross and a 4.5 per cent. increase in output. During the month of October the companies which felt the strain the most were those operating in our largest cities. Those companies which were doing for the most part a lighting business and little or no motor business were showing large rates of growth, in some cases more than 20 per cent. The recent opening of the stock exchanges throughout the country will undoubtedly have its beneficial effect upon the manufacturers, so that the amount of energy used in factories ought to increase rapidly.

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GLEANED FROM MANY SOURCES

Rock Island to be sold under foreclosure to-day.

There are reports in Rotterdam that the Allies have occupied Ostend.

Average price of 12 industrials 75.31, off 0.64; twenty railroads, \$0.13, off 0.88.

Reports that Greece and Roumania are to enter the war on the side of the Allies are renewed.

Installation of \$150,000,000 British war loan paid without disturbing London money market.

Stock Exchange lowers trading limit on stocks of five southern railway lines effective to-day.

Federal Court dismisses government's suit against Lehigh Valley Railroad Company and others.

Ohio approves Lake Shore and New York Central merger. Directors will meet soon to consolidate.

Rattlesnake venom as a cure for epilepsy failed in official tests conducted by the State of Kansas.

Beginning to-day, the Tremont and Suffolk Cotton Mills, at Lowell, Mass., will run day and night.

Mrs. May Schannel, of St. Louis, fired twenty shots at a "peeping Tom." None of the shots took effect.

One of the prizes shot during the Wisconsin hunting season was a white deer, which was sold to a taxidermist for \$20.

Each State in the Union will supply one star for the American flag to be unfurled at the official opening of the Panama Canal.

The United Fruit Co.'s wireless plant at New Orleans, having a range of 2,000 miles and valued at \$75,000, was destroyed by fire.

Nearly five hundred students of Princeton have signed a petition asking the faculty to recommend a military course of instruction.

The Duchess of Argyll will distribute \$150,000 donated by W. W. Astor, of London, for the relief of families of British officers killed or wounded at the front.

The British Christmas Pudding Fund has raised \$40,000, so that every British sailor or soldier, including those interned in Holland, will have a Christmas pudding.

The Western Union Telegraph & Cable Co. has decided to abandon its cable station at Manhattan Beach and to erect a new station at Rockaway Beach, seven miles farther east on the coast, because of the extensive dredging which the Government is undertaking at Manhattan Beach.

Daniel Willard says rate decision will mean \$2,000,000 yearly to Baltimore and Ohio, but commissions decision is more important for what it indicates than what it grants the roads.

Germany army, it is announced, which invaded Northern Poland, has been driven across frontier into Prussia, and Germans have lost control of north bank of the Vistula.

NEWS OF THE PLAYHOUSES

QUAINT COMEDY IS KITTY MACKAY.

Not since Pommander, Walk and Bunty Pullis the Strings, has Montreal been given the rare opportunity of seeing as pretty and well acted a comedy as was presented last night at the Princess Theatre in "Kitty MacKay." It is one of the few really good plays which has come before the public during the present season, being well written and reflecting the care and thoroughness of William Elliott, under whose personal direction it is produced. Although made in America, "Kitty MacKay" savours of the Scottish Highlands from the first rise of the curtain to the final one, despite the shift of scene from the village of Drumlochty to the London of the early Victorian era, with its aristocratic thoughts and its staid demeanor.

The producers, probably could not have secured a more fascinating "Kitty" than Miss Irene Haisman, who is really Scotch, nor a more typically modern and self-satisfied Scotch lassie than Miss Agnes Kelly as "Meg" Duncan. These two keep up a constant flow of clean good humor and well acted pathos, not overcome even when they attempt to re-write the Bible and lay bare the scandal of the "Adameses" (Adam and Eve).

As a lover, Kitty MacKay won the hearts of everyone and many the ladde in the audience envied Mr. Reginald Denny Lieut. David Graham, of the Coldstream Guards. Mr. Denny is well worthy of mention, first as the haughty young officer and later as the passionate lover who renounced her love, not thinking of himself but of the girl he loved. However, everything works out right in the end. Mr. R. Henderson Bland, as Lord Inglehart, was typical of the nobleman of the time and carried off his part in an able manner. The plot cannot be said to be new. It is as old as Cinderella, and in fact Kitty is an ideal representation of that character.

Great care has been shown in the costuming and the dialogue, and although this includes a great deal of Scotch, little difficulty is met in following the play, everything working out in the most able manner.

For those who wish to spend a pleasant evening, be it Christmas or any other night, they could not do better than visit "Kitty" at her present home at the Princess. They will come away with a completely new outlook upon life and they will not think so badly of this old world after all.

SOCIETY STUDY AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

"The Walls of Jericho," Alfred Sutro's study of society, was produced by the Del. S. Lawrence Stock Company at His Majesty's Theatre, last night. It was capably staged and the enthusiastic reception received was satisfactory evidence of the merit of the choice and of the production.

An ambitious attempt for any stock company because of its dependence on two people almost throughout the entire four acts, the piece was entirely pleasing. Mr. Lawrence, as Jack Frobisher carried his audience with him, progressing to the more violently emotional scenes of the last two acts with considerable capability. Mr. Luce, as Banister, gave a good representation of the man occupied with his marital ambitions to the exclusion of all else, which was appreciated.

The Lady Alethea of Miss Edna Baker, was a good rendering of a difficult part, and Miss Kelton also deserves particular notice for being very charming as Miss Mornington. The rest of the cast was adequate.

HOLIDAY BILL AT ORPHEUM.

Heading the bill at the Orpheum this week is that well-known song and laughter maker, Gus Edwards, in his Song Revue of 1914. This is worthy of Mr. Edwards, and those who have seen him before will not be disappointed with his present performance, in which he himself takes part. This is a musical comedy in tabloid form, embracing six scenes. The whole company is one of excellence and their renditions are well received. Miss Sally Seely has an excellent voice which might also be said of the others. J. C. Nugent and Miss Julie York give Mr. Nugent's sketch, "The Regular," which has some bright spots included. Emily Darrell, Charlie Conaway and their dog present a spirited skit, "Behind the Scenes." The Thine Lyres give a musical act which satisfied the audience. Frank Mullane's monologue was good, and the Lorett Twins have an aerial act which is out of the ordinary. Samsaya, a clever Jap, was unable to arrive in time for the afternoon bill, but was in the evening's programme. As a whole, the bill is one well worth seeing of a Christmas afternoon or night.

HAPPENINGS IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

Dick Rudolph will not Jump From World's Champion Braves to the Federals

TOMMY SMITH FOR ONTARIO

Three-Day Roller Skating Contest in Madison Square Gardens in March—Montreal City Hockey League Commences its Season.

Dick Rudolph, of the world's champion Braves, is the latest subject of Federal League publicity. A story was started in Chicago a few days ago purporting to come from Glimore, to the effect that Rudolph was signed to a contract in which the ten day clause was embodied and that the hero of the last world's series was seriously contemplating the desertion of the world's champions because of financial differences. James E. Gaffney declared yesterday that seventeen of his players had been signed to contracts from which the ten day clause was eradicated, among them being Rudolph, Maranville, Evers, Gowdy, Schmidt, Connolly, Moran, James and Smith.

Tommy Smith, of Ottawa, has decided after all to play with the Ontarios. He was threatened with suspension if he did not report at once. Salary differences between himself and the management have been settled.

The Wanderers are reported to be working better together than at any time last season.

The New York National League club has received a Christmas present from the citizens of Marin, Tex., in the form of a deed to Emerson Park, the spring training camp of the Giants. The town guaranteed the deed to the Giants provided the McGraw disciples were taken to that city for five consecutive years. This obligation already has been fulfilled.

Sorel, of Port Arthur, will be given a try-out by the Canadians.

In constructing a 6,500 yard golf course within the enclosed oval formed by the new Chicago Automobile "pedway" the backers of the race course are making ambitious plans. Bob Jolly, the professional, who is 'ot going to have any hole at which the golfer will have to drive into the face of the sun.

Jack Lavolette, the Canadian's whirlwind defenseman, has made his initial appearance of the season and showed himself in ready condition.

There will be another three day session of roller skating at Madison Square Garden on March 9, 10 and 11. It has been planned to supplant the twenty-four hour race with one of fifty hours and to hold the usual sprint races. All the men who competed in the one day affair have signified their intention of entering the next race and an attempt will be made to get a number of European skaters to give the affair an international flavor.

Fifteen hundred people were out last evening at the Arena to assist in the inauguration of the season for the Montreal City Hockey League. Victorias defeated Shamrocks in the opening contest by six goals to two, M.A.A.A. won from Laval by 3 to 2 while Nationals beat McGill 4 to 1. Neway Lalonde and Jimmy Gardner handled all the fixtures.

John McLean has donated a trophy for competition at the Bompel which the Caledonia Curling Club will hold on New Year's Day.

Twenty-one rinks have been drawn to compete in the Thistle Curling Club's Trophy competition, the first round of which will start to-morrow night.

Frankie Fleming, the Canadian featherweight champion, made Joe Goodney, of New York, quit in the fifth of a scheduled ten-round bout before the Canadian Athletic Club last night.

Fred Burtchell, who latterly has owned the franchise of the Syracuse Club, is anxious once more to pitch for Montreal.

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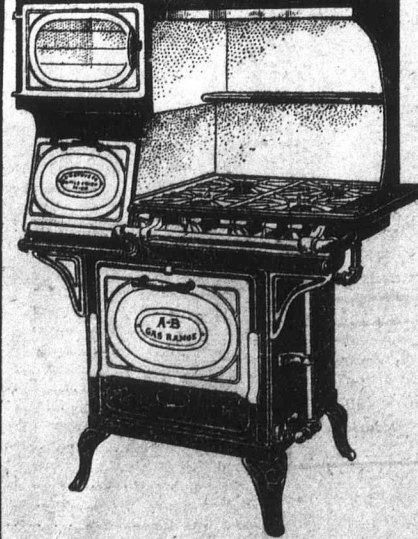
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