

NO MILITARISM FOR THE U.S.A., DECLARES PRESIDENT WILSON

American Republic Won't Allow War Scare to Stampede it Into Military Preparations on Any Big Scale—Will Rely, as of Yore, on its Citizen Army

Washington, Dec. 9.—President Wilson, in his annual address to Congress, coupled with a defense of the country's military preparedness, a word of assurance to business men that they would not be embarrassed by further legislation.

He said the Trust and Currency Legislation program of his administration virtually had been completed, leaving no conjecture as to what was to follow and that there was a clear and firm road ahead on which honest men might travel with perfect confidence.

The President spoke with great emphasis and deliberation when he began a discussion of the military situation and was enthusiastically cheered, the galleries joining in the applause when he said, "It is said in some quarters that we are not prepared for war. What is meant by being prepared? Is it meant that we are not ready, upon brief notice, to put a nation in the field; to call a whole nation of trained men to arms? Of course we are not ready to do that, and we shall never be in time of peace, so long as we retain our present political principles and institutions.

Proclaiming the people of the United States champions of peace and of concord, the President emphatically opposed a great standing army and was again cheered when he asserted that in time of national peril the country must depend upon a citizen force trained and accustomed to arms.

When the President had concluded he was surrounded by senators and members to extend their congratulations.

ALLIES GAIN TWO POSITIONS FROM GERMANS

Recapture Vermelles and Routhoire, in Belgium, for Two Months the Scene of Incessant Fighting

(French Official Bulletin.)

Paris, Dec. 8.—In the region of Arras a brilliant attack has given us possession. It is announced, of Vermelles and Routhoire.

Vermelles has been, for nearly two months, the scene of desperate fighting. The enemy had taken footing there on Oct. 16, and from the 21st to the 28th of October succeeded in forcing us back from that locality.

From the 25th of October, sapping and mining operations brought us back, until we were again in close contact, and on Dec. 1st we occupied the Park Chateau of Vermelles.

In the region of the Aisne and in Champagne, there have been some artillery engagements, and our artillery dispersed several gatherings of the enemy.

In the Argonne, Forest of Gruai, and to the northwest of Pont au Mousson and the Forest of Loportie we gained a little ground.

YOUNG LADY OF ST. JOHN'S A RELIGIOUS

An impressive and interesting religious ceremony took place at Torbay, at 1.30 p.m. yesterday, when Miss Agnes Walshe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Walshe, Pleasant St., took the white veil.

The ceremony was performed in the Chapel by the Rt. Rev. Mons. Roche, V.G., who was assisted by Revs. Mgr. St. John, Frs. Pippy, McEneaney, Rawlinus, Nough, Kelly and Sheehan.

A large congregation was present, including the parents and relatives of the young lady.

Miss Walshe will be known in Religion as Sister Mary Clare, being called after the patroness of the Convent at Torbay.

After the ceremony, lunch was served in the Convent.

In two years time Sister Mary Clare hopes to make her final vows and receive the black veil.

Bought Liquor For Boy

Sergt. Furlong summoned a man before Judge Knight today on a charge of buying liquor for a boy fifteen years old whereby the lad became drunk.

The Judge gave the man a lecture he will not quickly forget and then fined him \$50.00 or two months.

GERMAN FLEET OFF FOR AFRICA

Chased From South American Waters by English and Japs

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 9.—Authentic information has been received here to the effect that the German fleet finding itself outnumbered, has left these waters for South Africa.

Sons Of England Elect Officers

W. P. Butler, President of Dudley Lodge—Large Attendance and Keen Interest Shown.

Dudley Lodge Society met last night for the purpose of electing officers. There was a large attendance, and voting was keen.

The election resulted as follows:—W.P.P.—Bro. N. Andrews; W.P.—Bro. W. P. Butler, elected; V.P.—Bro. Hennebury, elected; Chaplain—Bro. J. Hemmens, re-elected.

Secretary—Bro. C. W. Udle, re-elected; Fin. Secy.—Bro. J. S. Taylor, re-elected.

Treas.—Bro. G. P. Hutchings, re-elected; Surgeon—Bro. T. Anderson, re-elected.

1st Guide—Bro. S. Merrills, re-elected; 2nd Guide—Bro. R. Pike, re-elected; 3rd Guide—Bro. S. Taylor, elected; 4th Guide—Bro. H. Taylor, elected; 5th Guide—Bro. C. Puddister, elected; 6th Guide—Bro. E. Elsbary, elected; Inner Guard—Bro. M. Spurrell, re-elected.

Outer Guard—Bro. W. Thistle, re-elected; Auditors—Bros. J. L. Noonan, W. Quick, W. Clark, re-elected; Trustees—P. P.'s Goodland, McCoubrey and Collier, re-elected.

OUR VOLUNTEERS WERE TRANSFERRED ON MONDAY LAST

Their Address Now is Fort George, Inverness, Scotland—New Quarters Lonely.

Rev. G. L. Powell In a New Church

The many friends of Rev. Gideon L. Powell, the talented son of Newfoundland, will be delighted to learn that he is now pastor of the beautiful Methodist church at Kerkimer, New York, one of the most influential Methodist churches of New York State.

The rev. gentleman, who was born at Bonavista, is a noted preacher and since going to America has won much prominence, not alone as a pulpit orator, but as a church worker.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

S.U.F. Patriotic Meeting

The second of the Patriotic Meetings under the auspices of St. John's Lodge, No. 5, will be held on Thursday next, 10th inst., at 8.30 p.m.

The Right Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, K.C.M.G., Premier, and W. F. Coaker, Esq., Pres. F.P.U., M.H.A., have kindly consented to address the meeting. Rev. W. H. Thomas and others to sing. The chair will be taken by J. A. Clift, Esq., K.C., W.G.M., and a cordial invitation is extended to ladies and gentlemen. No collection. Admission free.

J. CURNEW, Chairman. W. H. GOODLAND, Sec. Com.

CARDIGAN JACKET FUND.

Table listing names and amounts for the Cardigan Jacket Fund, including Mrs. McNelly, Max Lindsay, Mrs. Drover, etc.

Yesterday's Funerals

MR. W. J. MCKAY. The funeral of the late Mr. W. J. McKay took place yesterday afternoon.

MRS. R. EVANS. The remains of the late Mrs. R. Evans were interred at Mount Carmel yesterday.

Schr. Gossip has left Woods Isld. for Gloucester with 1497 barrels of herring.

"Cadet" First Of Our Local Xmas Numbers

Contains an Excellent Budget of Articles by Local Writers Well Illustrated.

We thank Mr. T. J. Foran, editor of The Cadet for an advance copy of his number which will be on sale tomorrow.

The present number which is the Christmas edition, is a good one and we feel sure it will have a large sale.

There are a number of very interesting articles by well-known local writers:—

"At the Turn of the Road," by A. A. Parsons, Esq., J.P.; "The Volunteers gone to the Front," "The Unthinking Crowd," by J. M. Devine; "Home Rule or the Irish Restoration," by Rev. M. J. Ryan, D.D.; "The Value of the Brigades," by Rev. Dr. Levi Curtis; "Cat-o-Nine-Tails," by W. J. Carroll; "Treating Tuberculosis in Newfoundland," by Dr. H. E. Rendell; "The Belgian Case," by J. A. Barron, B.A.; "The St. John Ambulance Corps," by the Secretary; "London Town from the Top of a Bus," by Miss Mary Morris (Beaconsfield); "The Willing Slave," by a Friend; "The Irish in Newfoundland in the 19th Century," continued, by P. K. Devine; "Through German Spectacles," by a Prisoner; "How to Live Long," by J. A. Standish; "Pats on the Back in Business," by A. N. Watson; "The Proper Appreciation of Values," by A. E. Lyons.

It is profusely illustrated, many of the pictures being most appropriate, showing the Newfoundlanders preparing for war.

We commend The Cadet to the public.

BIRTHS

HIBBS.—A baby girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hibbs, of Portugal Cove, on December 5th.

TALK IS CHEAP

Advertising is also very cheap, if carried in the right medium. The Mail and Advocate is the Can't Lose paper now. Must be true. Everybody's talking. It's not the price you pay but the returns you get.

S.S. Cape Breton left Humbermouth this morning for Sydney.

ALLIES ON OFFENSIVE SAYS BERLIN

But Germans Claim They are Repulsing it—Berlin Anticipates Investment of Warsaw

London, Dec. 8.—Official advices from Berlin to-day confirm the reports that the Allies have assumed the offensive in France and Belgium, but do not indicate that the movement has yet grown to formidable proportions.

The attacks, it is declared, has been few in number and have been defeated.

Private despatches from Holland are to the effect that fierce fighting is in progress along the Yser Canal.

These reports are in partial agreement with the latest official French communications which, however, tend to show that the forward movement of the Allies is being attempted at points all along the line.

Berlin is already looking toward a possible investment of Warsaw as a result of the capture of Lodz, Russian Poland.

SAYS GERMANS NEAR THE END OF THEIR TETHER

M. Thierry Mallet, Vice-President of Revillon Freres Tells of the War—Twice Wounded in Battle

Many St. John's folk know Monsieur Thierry Mallet, of Paris. He has visited our city several times and made many friends. He has been at the icefields with Capt. George Barbour in the Neptune, was popular with all on board and on his return paid a glowing tribute to our seafarers, saying he had never seen a braver lot of men in his life.

M. Mallet is a man of great wealth and education. He is Vice-President of Revillon Freres, and a son of the famous French banker.

Volunteered. When war broke out M. Mallet offered his services, and his friends will regret to learn that he has been wounded twice, but he is still full of fight and by this time is probably back in the firing line.

By yesterday's mail, Mr. Tasker Cook, the agent for Revillon Freres received a letter from M. Mallet, written at Dunkerque, Nov. 13, in which he says:—

"Thanks very much for your letter. I received it the other day in Belgium.

Wounded Twice. "I am being invalided home—that is to some military hospital in France, as I was unlucky enough to get wounded for the second time on Nov. 11. The first wound was only a slight bullet cut in the forearm, but this time I got by head cut open by shrapnel.

"Happily my skull is thick. There is no fracture and the scrapings of iron were taken out immediately from where they were resting on the bone.

"I guess I'll be back on the firing line in three weeks. This war is pure hell, but considering the tremendous odds in number we (French and British) had against us, we are not doing so badly.

At End-of Tether. "The Germans are getting at the end of their tether, and the Russian forces are coming in now good and thick. Pity the winter cannot be postponed. We would have made a clean job of it in two or three more months. Now, I'm afraid that the war will not be over before next summer.

"Congratulations to the Newfoundland boys. They are doing the right thing. Every young Englishman and Frenchman's duty is to fight tooth and nail. The German nightmare must be put aside once for all, and it's a question of life and death for either country.

Kind regards to Capt. Couch when you see him. Tell him that my army binoculars are not as good as the ones I gave him. I missed them more than once during this war, when I was trying to spot the Germans in their trenches.

"Good-bye and good luck."

The Christmas Edition of "The Cadet"

will be on the street to-morrow, and at Byrne's Bookstore, Atlantic Bookstore and Mrs. McRae's Fruit Store. Price ten cents. See the illustrations of the First Newfoundland Regiment. Boys wanted.—dec. 9, 21

S.S. Cairnstorrr which loaded pit props at Lewisporte sails this evening.



Christmas Cards and Calendars

"To the Soldier and Sailor Boys of Newfoundland Glad to fight for Britain's honor, Boldly have they taken stand For the cause of RIGHT and FREEDOM, For the cause of Motherland; Proud to greet you! God defend you! Loyal sons of Newfoundland."

That is one of the Seasonable Greetings on our Local Views and Artistic Post Cards, and we have others of like character. Better get a few in time for the next home mail.

3c. and 4c. each.

Calendars for 1915

The Calendars for the coming year are exceedingly artistic and attractive. Many very original designs.

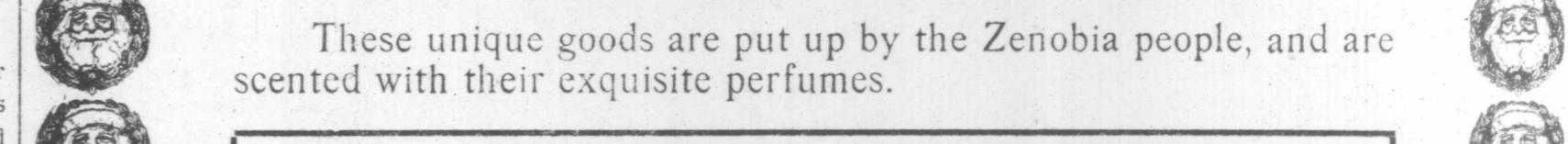
Something New!

We show a charming lot of Combination Handkerchief and Glove Sachets. Combination Xmas Cards and Sachets.

These unique goods are put up by the Zenobia people, and are scented with their exquisite perfumes.

Our Toy Dept., Second Floor IS NOW IN FULL SWING.

Be Sure to Visit Our Book Department



NEWEST GERMAN GUN IS CALLED MINE-TROWER

Throws a Shell Over a Foot in Diameter and is Used in Wrecking Entrenchments—Not Used as a Man-killer

London, Dec. 7.—Scarcely a week goes by that the Germans or the Allies do not produce and try in battle some new weapon of destruction. Many of these prove failures and others have not been described in print because they are still kept secret as to details.

The Germans have recently brought out a very nasty little gun, firing a projectile monstrously disproportionate to its size. The Allies probably are opposing this new gun with something similar, but the censor is careful to excise all allusions to new devices of the British or French.

New French Gun. The new German trench gun is called the "minenwuerfer" (mine thrower), and is no more than a "hand" grenade thrown by a gun. It is, like the giant forty-two-centimetre siege gun, a product of Krupp ingenuity. The howitzer part of the "minenwuerfer" is only about three feet long and weighs 130 pounds. The mounding weighs 100 pounds, and the bed or platform 930 pounds. The total is a little more than half a ton. It is mounted on wheels and, when it reaches its position in the trenches the "minenwuerfer" is removed from the travelling wheels.

The diameter of the bore is only three inches, but it throws a shell over a foot in diameter, spherical in shape and containing nearly 200 pounds of high explosives!

Curious Device. It does this by a curious device, as the walls are thin and do little damage and no bullets are carried such as are employed in shrapnel.

The initial velocity is only 230 feet a second. The lowest elevation used is forty-five degrees and at this angle the shell travels 550 yards, the maximum range of the gun. At this range the shell reaches a height of 419 feet in the air.

As four pounds of dynamite or gun-cotton will usually demolish breast works of three feet in thickness composed of dirt rammed between planks, it is easy to see what effect this trench howitzer shell must have.

The shell depends for its effect almost entirely on the explosive itself, as the walls are thin and do little damage and no bullets are carried such as are employed in shrapnel.

"The Imposter" Film To-day at the Nickel

The Nickel Theatre has another special film by the Gaumont Co. for this evening. It is entitled "The Imposter" and is in three reels.

Madame Durioux, a Parisian widow of wealth, for ten years has mourned for her son, George, who left Paris under a cloud.

She receives a letter from him saying that it was the memory of these errors that restrained him from writing. He says that he is dying, and begs that she will look after his wife and little girl. Quickly the mother cables to him in New York to tell him that a home and a mother's love awaits him and his.

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No one should fail to see this great picture. It has been pronounced the best ever acted by the Gaumont Co.

fits into the outer end of the first and on this second stem the big sphere is fixed. When the gun is fired both stems leave together, but the back half the part which fitted into the muzzle soon drops off. The great shell then hurtles on its way.

The grenade travels through the air very slowly and the enemy can easily see it coming and might conceivably in favorable circumstances dodge it.

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SEE IT RISING! What? Why? The Mail and Advocate circulation, that's what. Second to none just at present. Bear this fact in mind when advertising!

S.S. Almora with 4500 tons paper and pulp has left botwood for Lizard Head for orders.

S.S. Parthenia left Botwood yesterday with 2500 tons paper and pulp. She goes to St. John, N.B.

Sixteen new recruits signed on at the C.L.B. Armoury last night. Those who have passed the medical exams were busy drilling, while a squad from the Cadet Armoury went for a tramp countrywards.

The General Committee meets this evening. Those who volunteered last evening were: Edward Butt, Thomas Jos. O'Brien, William Hy. Escott, Dewey O'Dea, Charles Barter; Ernest Wilcox (Brigus, C.B.), Wilfred M. Windsor (Aguaforte), Roy S. Grandy (Bay L'Argent, F.B.); George Fowles, Jas. W. Morrissey, Jas. Kearsey, Jos. A. Kavanagh, John Joseph Foley, Edward P. Foley, John M. Redmond, Henry Stanton Windleler.