Weather Forecast:
Fair and Very Cold

The London Advertiser

HOME EDITION

52nd YEAR. No. 22222. WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23, 1914. FOURTEEN PAGES. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Bavarian Troops Beginning To Feel Mutinous

BAVARIAN KING WAS DECEIVED PEOPLE THINK

Are Getting Very Angry At Their Treatment by Germany.

FINANCES AT LOW EBB

Condition May Lead to Union of the South German States.

GERMANY LACKING FOOD

No Christmas Cake, Is Practical Tenor of Special Berlin Orders.

[Canadian Press.]

New York, Dec. 23.—A special cable to the Herald from Amsterdam says:

"No Christmas cake for the Germans is the tenor of the melancholy message which Germany received this morning, when all the general commanders, acting under special orders from Berlin, issued proclamation, ordering that flour, especially for Christmas cakes, be used with the utmost economy. It is clear from the proclamations which were issued that the question of food is greatly worrying the German authorities, who clearly perceive that the empire is steering toward starvation.

Bavarians Angry.

"From Munich it is learned of increasing dissatisfaction among the Bavarian troops, who contend that they are not getting proper recognition for the sacrifices they have made during the present war. The feeling is spreading quickly throughout Bavaria that King Ludwig has been deceived by the Kaiser, and that Bavaria is now engaged in a war which can bring no profit to the kingdom, whatever may be the outcome, while in case of Germany's victory, the Prussians will reap all the profit and honor, notwithstanding the fact that the Bavarians have sacrificed, proportionately, three times more men and money than Prussia.

All Kaiser's Ambition.

"The Bavarians now also are beginning to inquire what the war is about, and are angry at the Kaiser's ambition, which is simply ruining the Bavarian finances, while crippling the army. This feeling, if not speedily counteracted, may possibly lead to the formation of a union of the South German states as a counter poise to the all-Prussian tendencies prevalent at Berlin.

GERMANS INVADING PORTUGUESE LANDS

Another Raid On Naulila, a Military Post In Angola Province.

[Canadian Press.]

Lisbon, via Paris, Dec. 23.—The Germans have again invaded Angola, Portuguese West Africa. The fact was announced in the Chamber of Deputies by the Minister of Colonies, who said that the Germans had made a fresh attack on the military post at Naulila, in the province of Angola.

The commander of the post, Col. Rocadas, the minister stated, had only a small force at his disposal, and retreated in order to obtain reinforcements with which to drive out the Germans.

Further details of the affair, the minister said, were lacking.

Preceding Attack.

The first invasion of Angola occurred late in October, according to reports from Marques, East Africa, when a small party of German cavalry asked for an interview with the commander. A fight occurred, according to the reports, during which three Germans were killed before the party retired. Berlin, however, has denied that such an incident occurred.

Portugal Active.

Reports from Lisbon show that 3,000 men were sent from Portugal to its West African colony in September and October, and that in November the country was preparing to send 4,000 additional troops there. The Portuguese activity was caused by reports that Germany had armed great numbers of the natives and had placed them under the training of German officers for an invasion of Angola.

THE WEATHER.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 18; lowest, 7 above zero. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 11; lowest, 7 above zero.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND VERY COLD

Toronto, Dec. 23—8 a.m.

Forecasts.

Fresh west to northwest winds; local snow flurries, but mostly fair and very cold today and on Thursday.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	..	38	Cloudy
Calgary	22	16	Cloudy
Winnipeg	— 4	—26	Clear
Port Arthur	— 4	—16	Clear
Parry Sound	20	— 2	Cloudy
Toronto	22	10	Clear
Ottawa	24	— 8	Cloudy
Montreal	24	— 4	Cloudy
Quebec	24	—14	Clear
Father Point	20	— 4	Cloudy

Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

Light snowfalls have occurred locally in Alberta and Ontario and in Quebec, but the weather has been fair and quite cold.

The cold in Manitoba and Northern Ontario is very severe.

LONDON SOLDIER FIRST PATIENT OF CANADIAN HOSPITAL IN FRANCE

Member of the A. M. C., First Contingent Staff, Breaks Leg On Duty—Graphic Letter From Battle Line by Forest City Nurse On Duty There.

Etapees (Pas-du-Calais), France, is a name that holds special interest for Canadians, from the fact that the first Canadian volunteers to reach French soil for service are stationed there in charge of the stationary hospital in charge of Col. Shillington, of Ottawa. With this advance guard are several Londoners and Western Ontario people well-known here, including Dr. Stewart Fisher, son of Col. Fisher, P. O. inspector; Miss Pauline Ivey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Ivey, a nurse fortunate enough to be accepted for the Red Cross service, and Dr. Bentley, dental surgeon, of Sarnia.

Miss Ivey, writing to London, gives a most vivid description of her surroundings; of the magnificent golf Hotel du Toquet, commandeered for hospital purposes and the caring for the wounded sent from the front.

The following story, graphically told by Miss Ivey, the first part written on November 29, and the second on December 5, will be read with eager interest, especially by those who have friends with the first or second contingent:

Hospital In Hotel.

Well, at last, we are at our destination. It is a large hotel, beautifully situated, fifteen minutes from the sea. Behind is a large pine forest, filled with the most fascinating French villas. In front of us the golf links, for which the place is famous, with a clubhouse, tennis courts, etc. To our right, the sand dunes, and beyond, the sea. To the left, a beautiful avenue built through the forest. It is three miles from town, but the road is so beautiful, and the French villas so numerous that it is quite an ideal walk, and does not seem long. The place is really a summer resort, but so many hospitals have located here that the stores are all open and business going on as usual.

Ready for Patients.

We arrived here Saturday night, November 28, by motor from Boulogne, and already (Sunday) we have stripped the place and put up 200 beds, arranged the operating-room, and are quite ready for patients tomorrow. The rotunda, bridge-room and dining-room are like a big sun parlor, glass inclosed and steam-heated, and make beautiful hospital wards. The operating-room is perfectly wonderful. All our visitors say it is the finest operating room here yet, and even the D. G. M. S. was quite enthusiastic about it. There is nothing lacking in our equipment, and we ought to be able to give our men the very best of care and attention. The Red Cross Society would, I am sure, be delighted if they could only see all their beautiful sheets and pillowslips in use. I was unpacking a lot of them today. Our bandages are ready, dressings, gowns, etc., and this means so much when you undertake to establish a hospital in three days

London Man First Patient.

One of our own men had a slight accident—broke a small bone in his leg—and is the first patient we have had. Strange to say, he is from London, I forget his name just for the moment. I went down to see him, and we had quite a long chat about the second contingent, and who was coming.

At present the nurses and officers are quartered in the hospital, but we expect to move out tomorrow, and we will then be able to accommodate 500 patients. We are to have a villa to ourselves. It belongs to a countess, I believe, and its only drawback is that it is too beautiful. It contains nearly fifty rooms, but I have not seen it yet, so will wait till next time to rhapsodize about it. It is five minutes walk from the hospital. The officers have another smaller villa, and are very near also. The Duchess of Westminster has established a hospital here at the Casino. She came to call on us yesterday, and I think was quite envious of our outfit. It is something to be proud of anyway. I only hope we shall be able to keep up the standard in our nursing.

Hard Work of Preparation.

Several days have elapsed since I commenced this letter, and they have been days filled with hard work. Both men and nurses have been working night and day. The cleaning of a large hotel for hospital purposes is some task, I can assure you. We have moved into our villa—it is very comfortable, steam-heating plumbing, and lots of it. Of course, the bedroom capacity is somewhat limited, and we have to use the dining-room as a bedroom, and then use the butler's pantry as a dressing-room. Our mess is at the hotel, so we don't eat at the villa. We have a fine, large living-room, open fireplace, piano and all comforts, so

Continued on Page Three.

FOUR HATS IN MAYOR'S RING

Stevenson, Mitchell, Wright and Graham All Going To Run.

WILL HAVE ANOTHER TRY

Mayor Makes Long Expected Announcement of Fourth Term Intentions.

That there will be four candidates for mayor in the forthcoming municipal elections was practically assured today when Mayor Graham announced his intentions of seeking a fourth term. At the same time B. G. H. Wright filled his qualifications as a candidate with City Clerk Baker as a mayoralty candidate, and it is understood he will make the campaign as the temperance candidate.

Dr. H. A. Stevenson, as the candidate of the Trades and Labor assembly was the first candidate to file for mayor, while late this afternoon it was said that Ald. Fred G. Mitchell would make the fight at the request of hundreds of his friends, who were in sympathy with his efforts to force an inquiry into the manner in which Carl Becker, a German reservist, left the employ of the public utilities commission and joined his regiment in Germany now fighting against England. Ald. Mitchell has also been instrumental in trying to find out the status of General Manager H. J. Glaubitz of the commission.

The office-seekers who have qualified are Hubert Ashplant, J. F. Faulds and J. F. Madden, for the board of control, and Max Lerner, C. H. Merryfield and W. A. Wilson, for aldermen.

PARK SOLDIERS FREE TOMORROW

Quarantine Will Be Lifted After the Smallpox Scare.

NO RECRUITING ORDERS

Headquarters Is Still Without Word of Third Contingent Mobilization.

About 1,100 soldiers of the Eighteenth Battalion, who have been quarantined in Queen's Park because of a mild case of smallpox discovered there two weeks ago, will get their liberty tomorrow when the quarantine will be lifted.

The officers who went into quarantine with the men have kept it interesting for them from a training point of view, although at night they were allowed considerable freedom on the grounds. The dry canteen conducted by the Y. M. C. A., furnished a great congregating place for the men, and each night saw the best amateur talent in the battalion performing for the men.

Christmas Pay Checks.

Today two weeks pay was issued to each man, in all a payroll of nearly $30,000, and armed with this "small" sum the soldiers will descend on the business district of the city tomorrow and buy their belated Christmas gifts for friends they left at home.

Col. E. S. Wigle, who injured his leg in an accident with his horse during manoeuvres a few weeks ago, is able to be about again. The officers and men are now anxiously awaiting the time when they will be ordered with the second contingent to embark for England.

Militia headquarters is still without information regarding the mobilization of the third contingent.

TURKISH WAR PARTY HEAD WHO MAY SOON FACE A REVOLUTION

Enver Bey

Advertiser Illustrat

SECOND VICTIM OF BLAZE AT KINGSTON

[Canadian Press.]

Kingston, Dec. 23.—Burns she received early yesterday morning when her home caught fire from the kitchen stove caused the death last night in the village of Sydenham, of Mrs. William Deyo. Her brother-in-law, who tried to save her when the fire broke out, was burned to death. Mrs. Deyo was 24 years of age. Her husband was killed a few weeks ago, when he fell into an open shaft at Sydenham.

WILL INVESTIGATE CASE

Crown Attorney to Probe Death of Indian Woman at Muncey Reserve.

Crown Attorney J. B. McKillop will investigate the death of Mrs. Kiskeko, an Indian woman, who died on the Muncey reserve on Sunday night, and whose death, according to the coroner, was caused by foul play. The county crown attorney will receive a confidential report from the doctor who performed the post-mortem this week, and will if necessary attend the inquest on Tuesday next at Melbourne.

ASKS SPEEDY HEALTH PROBE

City Clerk, On Behalf of Council, Requests Inquiry Into Beck Charges.

ON TO McCULLOUGH

Allegations Against M. O. H. Are Forwarded to Provincial Board.

City Clerk Baker sent a copy today of the resolution adopted by the council Monday night, and containing charges by Sir Adam Beck against Medical Officer of Health Dr. T. V. Hutchinson, to Dr. McCullough, head of the Provincial Board of Health, and asked that the charges be investigated. Dr. McCullough was asked to have the investigation take place as soon as possible.

Sir Adam in his charges accuses the medical health officer of incompetency and neglect of duty, and of practically tying the hands of the London Health Association in its efforts to stamp out contagious diseases in this community.

A copy of the McCullough letter was also forwarded to Dr. F. L. Burdon, chairman of the board of health, with the request that he bring it to the attention of the board. He was also asked to take action on a complaint filed some time ago by James G. Raymond.

Complains of Quarantine.

Mr. Raymond alleged in a communication on November 12 that at a house opposite 422 King street a dog was allowed to run at large among the children of the Alexandra school, while the house was under quarantine for smallpox, and that Peter Birtwistle, a roomer, was not included in the quarantine, and was even allowed to go to the house, with another man, and remove his clothing and other personal effects while the place was placarded.

Of these charges the board has taken no notice.

BRITISH AND FRENCH RECAPTURE VILLAGE

In Various Belgian Districts Allies Advance, Making 800 Yards Near Perthes-Les-Hurlus—German Lines of Works Blown Up and Taken.

(Canadian Press.)

Paris, Dec. 23.—2:25 p.m.—The French war office this afternoon gave out an official statement as follows:

"Yesterday in Belgium we made slight progress between the sea and the highway from Nieuport to Westende, as well as in the region between Steenstrawe and Bixschoote, where we occupied a forest, some houses and a redoubt.

"To the east of Bethune, working in conjunction with the British army, we recaptured the village of Givenchy-Les-La Bassee, which had been lost to us.

"In the region of Arras a heavy fog made it necessary for both the enemy and ourselves to lessen our activities.

AVERAGE GAIN 800 YARDS.

"To the east of Amiens, on the Aisne, and in Champagne, there have been artillery engagements.

"In the region of Perthes-Les-Hurlus we carried, after a spirited cannonade and two assaults, the last section of the line which we occupied in part December 21. We made an average gain of 800 yards. In the last trench which came into our possession, we captured a section of machine guns, including the gun crews. A violent counter-attack was repulsed.

"We also made progress to the northeast of Beausejour, where further counter-attacks on the part of the enemy were without success.

PERCEPTIBLE ADVANCE.

"There has been a perceptible advance on the part of our troops in the forest of La Grurie against a front of trenches 400 yards wide and running not less than 250 yards deep. We blew up with mines two of these German lines of works and occupied the excavations.

"The fighting is going on in the vicinity of Boureuilles, with the outcome fairly serious. It would appear not to have been possible to retain entirely the positions acquired yesterday morning.

"There has been no incident from the heights of the Meuse to Upper Alsace.

BOTH HAVE SUCCESSES.

"Russia—In East Prussia the Germans have been driven back on the line from Neidenburg to Soldau to Lautenburg. In Poland the Germans were successful in getting a footing on the lower Bzura, to the north of Sochaizew. Further to the south they reached the Rawka River at Bolimow, and they have passed Skierniewice, moving to the east.

"Austro-German forces are moving into Poland along a front which runs from a point to the southeast of Pietrkow to the west of the River Nida, in Galicia. They have reached the River Dunajek and they occupy a line from Grybow to Smigrod to Sanok.

"The effort at a sortie made by the Przemysl garrison resulted in complete failure."

GERMANY'S REPORT.

[Canadian Press.]

Berlin, Dec. 23, via London, 3:25 p.m.—The official statement issued today by the German army headquarters says:

"Attacks in the region of Lombaertzyde and to the south of Bixschoote have been easily repulsed by us. At Richebourg L'Avoue the English again were driven from their positions yesterday.

"Notwithstanding desperate counter attacks we have retained all the positions which we captured from the English on the Richebourg Canal, from Aire to La Bassee. Since December 20, 750 British and colored soldiers have been captured by us, and five machine guns and four mine-throwers taken.

Attacks Partly Repelled.

"In the neighborhood of Camp Chalons the enemy is showing greater activity.

"Attacks to the north of Sillerie, southeast of Rheims, at Souain and at Perthes have been partly repelled by us with heavy losses to the French.

"The situation in East and West Prussia is unchanged.

"Battles for possession of the branches of the Bzura River, West Warsaw, continue.

"The situation on the right bank of the River Pilica remains unchanged."

Officers Blame Hughes For Muddle in England

Those Who Have Returned Say Minister Should Not Have Sent So Many—Some Visited the Battle front.

[Canadian Press.]

Montreal, Dec. 23.—The Ontario and western representatives in the party of 52 officers from the first Canadian contingent at Salisbury Plains passed through Montreal last night, having landed at Halifax on Sunday.

The Ontario representatives were: W. J. Cressey, Sudbury; G. H. Carpenter, Dundas; F. J. Hollister, Toronto; H. A. Sharpe and W. P. Clifton, Niagara Falls; W. B. Collier, Toronto, and T. D. Johnston, Peterboro.

Some of the officers were frank in their criticism of Major-General Sam Hughes, minister of militia, for sending so many officers to England with the Canadian troops. He should have known, they say, that it would create trouble, and the surplus men would have to be sent back.

Visited Battlefront.

Lieut.-Col. C. D. McPherson, of Portage la Prairie, was in charge of the returning officers. Before returning, he visited the battlefront in Flanders with Major Norman Edgar, of Regina.

He was among the Belgian troops, was in a French observation station, was in among flying shells and went through Dunkirk, Nieuport and Dixmude to the trenches.

"The scene at Nieuport would have made a wonderful picture," he said last night. "The Yser, comparatively narrow, flows on toward the sea. Its sands contained trenches, then dead and more trenches. The dead bodies on the yellow sands, under a setting sun, will always remain a vivid picture in my memory.

Saw the Fighting.

"Nieuport, with its wreck of a cathedral, which had been shelled by the Germans, and its shattered houses, might have been labelled 'war.' We motored the ten miles to Dixmude. On the way we passed Belgian troops fighting in the trenches. There was no sign of the men becoming disheartened.

"Only a few thousand yards back from the trenches, Belgians were living. They almost seemed to have adopted the fatalist's view of life—if they went away they had no place to go to except to become refugees; they might as well stay and take their chance of a stray shell striking them.

Child Mutilated.

"I saw a little Belgian girl with her hand cut off by drunken German soldiers.

"A desultory cannonade was going on between the British and German troops when we were near Dixmude, the men taking shelter in the trenches. A couple of 'Jack Johnsons' burst near us. I believe the Germans lost fifty per cent of their men in the fierce fighting at Ypres, while the British losses were considerably lighter."

DESPERATE FIGHTING PROCEEDS IN POLAND

Country In Grip of Winter, With Men in Trenches Suffering Great Hardship—Lull Expected In War Zone Over Christmas.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Dec. 23.—12 (noon).—The 80-mile front in Russian Poland to the west of Warsaw, where the Germans and Russians are at grips on the banks of the Bzura, Rawka and Pilica rivers, continues to be the scene of the most desperate fighting in either the eastern or western arenas of the war.

When the weather conditions under which the troops there are fighting are recalled, the sufferings of the men in the trenches may to some extent be appreciated. The country is experiencing the full force of winter. Each side has sustained tremendous losses in this battle of the rivers, and although the Germans claim to have forced the Russian line at a number of points, it is nevertheless a fact, according to reports reaching London, that the Russian front has been straightened out, and it is difficult to visualize which contender has the strategic advantage.

German Reinforcements.

Again, there come trickling through from Holland reports of vast movements of German forces from the east and the west. A dispatch reaching here from Amsterdam says that thousands of German troops have passed through Aix-la-Chappelle toward Northern France. This activity may be the forerunner of a renewed German offensive in the western arena under the eyes of Emperor William, or it may be simply intended to offset the reinforcements Great Britain has been throwing lately into the French field of hostilities. As the situation appears to stand today, the Allies in France and Belgium continue more on the offensive than the defensive, and every day shows slight gains to their credit.

A Christmas Lull.

It is believed that notwithstanding the failure of the plan for an armistice over Christmas, some sort of a lull will set in on Christmas Day itself. Christmas sentiment is deep in the men's hearts, and their positions on the line of battle facing each other in bitter antagonism will not eradicate it.

The London newspapers have decided unanimously not to publish on Christmas Day, and the official press bureau will suspend its activities from the afternoon of December 24 until the evening of December 25.

Thousands of tons of Christmas presents have been sent to all the fronts. The distribution and enjoyment of these gifts is another argument for the probable suspension of hostilities wherever this is possible.

AFTER WARSAW.

[Canadian Press.]

London, Dec. 23.—The Daily Mail's Petrograd correspondent telegraphs: "Only one of three sides of a square on which the Germans were attacking the Russians a few days ago is being assaulted. This is on the line before Warsaw, where the efforts of the enemy to pierce the Russian line of defence continue with uninterrupted vigor.

"The Germans are keeping up a supply of troops wherever they are needed for filling up the gaps.

"It is now stated that the number of troops in the western front has been reduced, but that the places in the first line units are being taken by garrison and second line troops.

Can Russians Hold?

"If the Russians' dam, which has been constructed in order to hold back the torrent of Germans that is being poured toward Warsaw, can resist the pressure, the situation must improve."

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Petrograd telegraphs: "At Munto the Germans shot down one of their own aeroplanes, which they thought was a Russian machine. It was broken into fragments by the fall, and both occupants were instantly killed."

DRILL IN SCHOOLS PLEASES OFFICERS

Major Milligan Has Nothing But Praise For Pupils' Work.

In submitting his report on the recent military drill competitions, held in the public schools for the Strathcona Trust prizes, Major H. L. Milligan, of the Eighteenth Battalion, who conducted the competition with Captain E. W. Hallam and Lieut. C. P. Laing, expresses the opinion that the London public school scholars are keen to learn military drill.

"The children are all very keen, are willing to learn and are anxious to perfect themselves," says the major.

In all the city schools I found efficient drill being done. Talbot Street, however, is singled out as the best in the city. The general difficulty with schoolboys, he says, is steadiness on the parade. Once, however, the boys learned that this was a requisite of the training, they paraded like veterans.

Following are the marks made by the various schools entered in the competition out of a possible 500.

Chesley Avenue	284
Factory Street	278
Aberdeen	269
Talbot	267
St. George's	254
Alexandra	251
Princess	244
Victoria	206

JUDGMENT RESERVED

Men Charged With Stealing Coppers From Old Man Appear In Court.

Judgment was reserved till Saturday by Judge Elliott in the county court case today at the court house, when James Ballantyne and Frank Mitchell, Strathroy, were tried on the charge of stealing $7.55 from Herbert Reeves, of the house of refuge. The old man had been saving up his coppers for some time, having 63 of them, the balance being in silver. He alleges that the prisoners stole them from him.

When arrested on December 1 by Chief Wilson, Strathroy, a check for $80, the alleged property of Frank O'Connor, was found on Ballantyne. He was charged with stealing it by O'Connor today, and was tried after the first case was concluded. Both judgments will be given Saturday.

BECOME CITIZENS OF BRITISH EMPIRE

Prominent Canadians Will Take Advantage of Empire-Wide Naturalization.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—Hon. George E. Perley, Sir William Van Horne and Sir Thomas Shaughnessy will start next year by becoming citizens of the British Empire. On January 1 there comes into effect in every part of the Empire a law providing for Empire-wide naturalization. Under its provisions an alien who becomes a British subject in one part of the Empire becomes a British subject in every part of the Empire.

The three distinguished Canadians of American birth are taking advantage of the new law. Their applications are in, and they are first on the list.

TORONTO NOMINATIONS

T. L. Church and Jesse McCarthy for the Mayoralty.

[Canadian Press.]

Toronto, Dec. 23.—This was nomination day at the city hall for the aspirants for civic honors. The city clerk received the nominations of Controllers T. L. Church and Jesse McCarthy for the mayoralty. Mayor Hocken was nominated, but retired. For controllers: James Simpson, John Wanless, F. G. McBrien, F. S. Spence, Thomas Foster, John O'Neill and Jos. E. Thompson were nominated. Four are to be elected. The present controllers are Church, McCarthy, Simpson and O'Neill.

NOT READY TILL SUMMER.—Though the new Ridout Street Methodist Church is now all inclosed, the work of finishing the interior progresses slowly in the cold weather, and it is not expected the building will be ready for occupancy until the summer. The Sunday school will meet for some time yet in its present quarters, owing to lack of accommodation in the new church basement.

BRITISH MAIL

The next British mail (parcel post) closes tomorrow at 2 p.m.

UNITY OF FRANCE PROVED TO PEOPLE

The French Press Unites In Extolling Speeches In Parliament.

ONLY POLITICAL MALADY

So Matin Says of So-Called Disease In French Soul.

[Canadian Press.]

Paris, Dec. 23.—Newspapers of all shades of opinion vie with each other today in extolling the speeches of Premier Viviani and Paul Deschanel, speaker of the House, at the historic sitting of Parliament yesterday, which, all declare, was a magnificent manifestation of the "sacred union" of the whole country appealed for by President Poincare at the beginning of the war.

"All signs of disease in the French soul, which barbarian doctors like best to dwell upon, was a political malady," says the Matin, in commenting on the meeting. "The Chamber showed yesterday, for the second time, that this

(Continued on Page Five.)

WOMEN STRIVING WITH HERCULEAN TASK OF FEEDING 1,200 SOLDIERS

Christmas Eve Dinner for the Second Contingent Volunteers Keeps Canadian Club Members Busy Preparing Gorgeous Spread.

This afternoon, the members of the Women's Canadian Club are busily engaged at the McCormick factory, Dundas street east, with preparations for the dinner to the men of the Eighteenth Battalion and the Fifteenth Battery, to be given there tomorrow night at 5:30, the hour having been changed from 6:30 to afford the soldiers who will enjoy Christmas Day in their own homes an opportunity of leaving by evening trains.

The enormity of the task the ladies have taken upon themselves may be gathered from the fact that in preparation for the serving of 1,250 the following provisions also being cooked and baked:

200 turkeys.
100 quarts cranberries.
600 pounds of pudding.
200 mince pies.
3,000 bread rolls.

In addition there will be a long list of other goodies.

In Asylum Ovens.

Some time ago, Dr. Robinson, superintendent of the Asylum, made an offer that was most eagerly accepted, that of having all the turkeys roasted in the Asylum kitchens and delivered at the factory. One hundred and thirty turkeys, dressed and ready for the ovens, have been donated by individuals, the balance bought through a local dealer. A service that cannot be overestimated has been that of Mrs. A. T. Edwards, convener of the turkey committee, and the members of her committee. Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Edwards' kitchen was a hive of industry when seventy turkeys were dressed there by Mrs. Edwards and the committee members, sixty loaves of bread being used in the process. Mayor Graham has looked after the securing of dishes, tables and chairs beyond those provided in the McCormick plant, and assuring to the guests good smokes by personally attending to the provision of cigars.

Company's Co-operation.

Not only has the McCormick Company granted the use of its premises, its furniture, and its dishes, but it is having several of its staff assist with the preparations and to look after the checking of coats, wraps, etc., during the entertainment.

Thoughtfulness has provided every comfort for the Canadian Club members who are getting ready for the banquet. The rest-room has been put at their disposal, and afternoon tea is being served to them both today and tomorrow as guests of the McCormick Company.

Teachers Help Decorations.

The banquetting hall will undoubtedly presented a very brilliant appearance tomorrow night. Miss Gertrude Bapty is convener of the decoration

(Continued on Page Three.)

NAVAL OFFICERS ASKED WARSHIPS

Col. Goethals' Demand On Washington Was On Their Representation.

[Canadian Press.]

New York, Dec. 23.—The request made by Colonel George W. Goethals, governor of the canal zone, for the dispatch of American warships to the canal to preserve the neutrality of the United States, was made at the request of naval officers in charge of wireless plants and naval affairs in the zone; it was forwarded to Washington as a matter of form by Colonel Goethals, acting in his capacity as governor of the canal zone; and the incident is ended so far as Col. Goethals is concerned. So announces the colonel himself upon his arrival here today from Cristobal on the steamer Panama. Col. Goethals said that naval officers had reported to him that there had been two violations of American neutrality. He declined to give the names of the naval officers or to give the names of the vessels involved in the alleged violation of neutrality.

Col. Goethals expects to go to Washington after the Christmas holidays to urge Congress to appropriate $10,000,000 for the construction of drydocks, barracks, machine shops and wharves in the canal zone.

DECLINES TO ATTEND "PROBE" MEETING

Assistant Manager of Utilities Commission Refuses To Answer Becker Questions.

The special committee of the council, probing the case of Carl Becker, the German reservist, employed in the public utilities commission up until a short time after the war broke out, held a meeting today to consider a reply from Assistant Manager A. O. Hunt. Mr. Hunt is at the head of the department which employed Becker, and he was asked to give information as to how, when, where and why Becker was employed and discharged. Mr. Hunt stated, in a communication, that he did not have time to appear before the committee, and refused to answer any questions unless they were put in writing.

On motion of Ald. James Tancock a report to the council was prepared containing the information that Mr. Hunt refused to answer questions of the committee.

About twenty questions bearing on the case were answered for the committee by John H. Chapman, acting chairman of the board, but the information contained in the answers did not satisfy the committee.

$100 DONATION.—Miss Catherine Smart, regent of Princess Patricia Chapter, Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, gave her check for $100 to the Children's Aid Society today as a Christmas gift. The funds of the society are exceedingly low for this time of the year, and the gift was greatly appreciated by Inspector Sanders.