

The Evening Times Star

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TWENTY PAGES

PAGES ONE TO TEN ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1917

TWENTY PAGES — ONE CENT

Slight Gain By The British On West

Bombers Improve Position East of Bullecourt; Enemy Apparently Massing for Offensive, Say Travelers in Switzerland

BARRACKS ON THE ISLAND BURNED

Wind Fortunately Blows Down Building and Helps Soldiers in Fighting Blaze

No. 2 barracks, the old quarters of No. 9 Siege Battery, Partridge Island, was this morning burned to the ground. The fire was first noticed coming from under the building, near the furnace room. An alarm was given and the members of the Composite Battery were immediately on the job and with the means they have on the island to cope with fires, they did remarkably good work. The strong wind fortunately blew the building down or the matter might have been a lot more serious.

ON BLACK'S ALLEYS

The Sweepers not only defeated the Maples in the City League fixture on Black's bowling alleys last evening, but they also clinched the championship of the first series. The individual score of the game follows:

Table with columns: Name, Total, Avg. Lists names like McIlveen, Jenkins, Black, Gambin, Sullivan, etc.

MAJOR MORGAN IS TO COMMAND THE 62ND HOME GUARD HERE

Major J. S. Frost, who for the last two years has been the commanding officer of the 62nd Home Guard, is soon to be transferred to Moncton, to take command of the temporary depot being established there under the Military Service Act. His position as C. O. of the 62nd is to be filled by Major Gilbert Morgan, a returned officer of the 12th Battalion, and who while the 288th Kiltie Battalion was recruiting acted as commander.

WHAT WE ARE FIGHTING

A correspondent of Paris Temps writes: "When the Germans retreated they left snares everywhere. Barrings in the way to dugouts were tied to grenades. Nails half-hammered at the middle of staircases exploded detonators if trod upon. Stoves full of shavings blew up if lit. Wreaths on graves were connected with infernal machines. Boxes of sweets were poisoned with arsenic, and stables were infected with glanders virus."

COAL FOR EXPORT TO BE DEARER THAN THAT FOR USE IN UNITED STATES

Washington, Dec. 14.—Decision of Fuel Administrator Garfield to permit an increase of \$1.85 a ton over the domestic price scale on export and foreign bunker coal will permit American producers to reap at home profits which heretofore have been collected by foreign dealers.

WOULD YOU?

If the German ships came sailing up the harbor of St. John, And the German troops came marching through the town, If an army of their Zeppelins were bus-ing overhead, And devastating bombs were falling down, If the homes you love and cherish were destroyed by German shells, And the little ones were slaughtered right and left, Would you think of petty trifles that amused you long ago, Before the world of peace had been bereft?

Would you stand and watch your loved ones killed, or taken by the Hun, To suffer—God knows what—before they died, And never lift a finger to defend them from the guns, But rather run away somewhere and hide.

And more—would any one of you, AS-SIST these savage beasts, To plunder—burn—destroy—perhaps to kill?

Ye gods—the thought is monstrous—yet a moment will I ask, Is your VOTE for Loved Ones or for Kaiser Bill?

Will you stand as British subjects to defend your hearth and home? Will you keep the cursed Boches from our sod?

Or will you vote for William, and invite him to come on, A TRAITOR to your HOME, your KING, your GOD?

Oh! men—British subjects—as Christian men and true, Stand faithful to those boys who've gone before, Be true to those you cherish, to the homes you hold so dear, And then—please God—well fight and WIN THE WAR!

VIOLET E. MARSHON, 42 Durham St., St. John, N. B.

THE CALL FOR MEN

Gunner Frank Hickling, of Norton, writing from Belgium to his wife, says: "You can think yourself lucky that you are in Canada. Some people there don't appear to know that there is a war on. It is a good thing that they have conscription, for we have got to have more men."

Gunner Kehoe of Prince Edward Island, back from France says:

"The boys in the trenches want help. They must not be deserted." Pte. Landry of Chatham, home from France, says: "The boys overseas are in need of help and they need it at once. Whoever says that they do not, absolutely misrepresents the facts of the case. They are for the Military Service Act almost to a man, and they have a mighty poor opinion of those politicians, etc., who for their own selfish ends, are in opposition to the sending of help to the boys who are fighting for them."

TO REDUCE ALCOHOL IN BEER

President Soon to Issue Proclamation Making It 23-4 Per Cent.

Washington, Dec. 14.—At the request of Food Administrator Hoover, President Wilson will issue a proclamation reducing the alcoholic content of beer to 23-4 per cent. The use of grain for brewing will be cut by the order about 30 per cent.

The proclamation has been held up pending a decision as to whether the percentage should be based upon volume or upon weight. It finally was decided to set a weight standard to protect brewers of ales and stouts in whose product the alcoholic content runs higher by volume.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, L. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—The disturbance which was near Sible Island yesterday passed out to the Atlantic, and another which developed on the south Atlantic coast has moved quickly northeastward and is now centred near the Bay of Fundy.

At St. John, N. B., the weather is fair and clear, with a light breeze from the west. Temperature 45° F.

At Moncton, N. B., the weather is fair and clear, with a light breeze from the west. Temperature 45° F.

At Miramichi, N. B., the weather is fair and clear, with a light breeze from the west. Temperature 45° F.

At Caraquet, N. B., the weather is fair and clear, with a light breeze from the west. Temperature 45° F.

At Grand Falls, N. B., the weather is fair and clear, with a light breeze from the west. Temperature 45° F.

At Edmundston, N. B., the weather is fair and clear, with a light breeze from the west. Temperature 45° F.

Party Predictions As Campaign Nears End

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—With the close of the dominion campaign practically at hand, it looks as though the seats in which there would be no contest on Monday will number twenty-five. Ten of these are in the Unionist column, while the Liberals have fifteen acclamations, all but one—Turgeon, of Gloucester, N. B.—being from the province of Quebec. The Unionists will have acclamations in two Nova Scotian, one New Brunswick, one Manitoba, one Ontario, four Saskatchewan and one British Columbia seats. Two ministers of the crown, Hon. Frank Carroll and Hon. Martin Burrell are already elected, while W. F. McCurdy, under secretary of the department of militia, is also sure of a seat in the next house.

Both parties profess to be confident as to the result. Unionist headquarters here believe that when the soldiers' vote is added to the home vote the government will have a majority of from thirty to thirty-five. Liberals, on the other hand, deny this, asserting that they will have a comfortable lead on Monday night, which will not be materially affected by the overseas vote.

SIXTY-FOUR MILE GALE SWEEPS CITY; SCHOONER DRIVEN ASHORE

The Wanita Wrecked at Fort Dufferin; Exmouth Street Methodist Church Partially Unroofed

There was quite a sea running in the harbor this morning as the result of a hurricane which swept over the city. The gale started about 6 o'clock this morning and reached a velocity of sixty-six miles an hour. The wind was from the east and southeast and was accompanied by snow. In all two inches of snow fell on the level, but owing to the gale drifted considerably. The temperature rose to one degree below freezing. In the city proper the alarm whistles were crossed and frequently a blast from the fire horn was heard. This caused citizens considerable apprehension as they felt a fire would result, in a serious conflagration.

The New Brunswick Telephone Company had some trouble as some of their wires were blown down. Many wires in the rural districts are down and as a result there was a partial disruption of the service. All men available were sent out to make repairs, but owing to the high wind they were considerably hampered. Schooner Wrecked.

While endeavoring to reach port this morning for a laden from the severe winter storm which was raging in the bay, the schooner "Wanita" was driven ashore at Fort Dufferin. Fortunately the crew reached the mainland in safety and no lives were lost.

The schooner, which was loaded with lumber, was coming down the bay and was endeavoring to make port, when she was caught in the gale and high combers. The crew had landed in safety and there would be no need for it. The tug attempted to reach the schooner, but owing to the storm and the location of the vessel they failed. The schooner is reported in a precarious position and Mr. Chesley was of the opinion that she would be a total wreck.

The "Wanita" is owned by R. P. Soley of Economy, N. S., and was in command of Captain Durant of Parrsboro, N. S. She is forty-five tons register, and was engaged in carrying lumber.

A report received just prior to going to press was that the schooner would be a total loss. When she was driven in shore, the crew was saved by the tug "Wanita" which was in the harbor at the time.

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THE WORK OF THE EXEMPTION BOARDS HERE

The work of the exemption boards in the city is drawing to a close, and it is hoped that the work will be concluded by the afternoon. The exemption appeal courts have been sitting in the judges' chambers in the Pugsley building for four days. Chief Justice Hazen, hearing appeals from Kings, Queens and St. John counties has heard thirty cases a day, having finished 120 cases to date. Judge Armstrong, having only one day transferred for business and judicial obligations, has heard a smaller number. The decisions are being sent to the registrar and he in turn notifies the appellant.

ALIED CAUSE IN PERIL, COL. CHURCHILL SAYS

From Politicians Who Advocate Making "Peace With the Victorious Huns"

London, Monday, Dec. 10.—(Delayed)—Speaking today at Bedford on the subject of the Allies' war aims, Winston Spencer Churchill, minister of munitions, said that the situation was more serious than it had been reasonable three months ago to expect. The country and the allied cause, Colonel Churchill added, were endangered. The future of the British Empire and of democratic civilization in the hands of the Allies, and would continue to hang there for a considerable period.

"When I say the country is passing through a time of danger," Colonel Churchill continued, "I mean there are people who wish to bring about a premature peace. They are listening to the sophistries and dangerous counsel of certain politicians. People who say 'Restore your war aims' really mean to make peace with the victorious Huns."

"The British do not mean to put up anything but the legitimate and righteous aims with which we entered the war, and if such an issue as this were seriously raised it could be decided only by the whole nation. I cannot see that there is the slightest danger in submitting that question to the free decision of the whole nation."

London, Dec. 11.—The Daily Chronicle, commenting on Colonel Winston Churchill's speech at Bedford yesterday, says:

"A passage at the end of the speech suggested the possibility of a general election to test whether the belief in the necessity of overcoming Prussian militarism was still that of the majority of the electorate. Colonel Churchill expressed the view that the majority would be staunchly behind it, and we agree; but for that very reason we rather regret his suggestion."

"A general election is not needed in order to force an open door, and recurrent threats of one are not the best way to retain and heighten the sense of national solidarity. There are unanswerable arguments against holding one before it can be held on the franchise of the new reform bill, and even when the new framework of elections is available the argument against diverting national energy from the war to the polls remains far too weighty to be hurried for any but some very material cause. No such cause has yet been shown."

AUSTRIA ADMITS SHE'S HARD PRESSED

Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—The Austro-Hungarian war minister, Gen. Slogger Steiner, is quoted by the Neue Freie Presse, of Vienna, to the effect that the relief resulting from an armistice with Russia would depend upon the details of the agreement, but in any case it would relax considerably the strain on the transport system. Discussing the question of disarmament, the general said he agreed with the recent statement of Count Czernin, the foreign minister, that army and navy expenditures had reached a level it was almost impossible to maintain permanently.

EX-CZAR'S DAUGHTER IN JAILS

Petrograd, Thursday, Dec. 13.—It is reported from Tobolsk, Siberia, that Olga, eldest daughter of former Emperor Nicholas, is seriously ill.

MAKING ROOM IN JAILS

Petrograd, Dec. 13.—Civil offenders in the Petrograd prisons have been removed to jails in the provinces to make room for counter-revolutionary suspects who are being arrested continually.

Countess Fanni, former vice-minister of public welfare has been arrested. She is charged with having returned all the ministry funds to the state bank, leaving the safes in the ministry empty when the Bolsheviks took control.

The lodgings of Mme. Kerensky, wife of the former premier, were searched today by soldiers. She was told that she had better notify Kerensky to come to the Smolny Institute voluntarily or he would be in great danger of lynching if found.

The members of the constitutional democratic party now in prison will be tried by revolutionary tribunals. Bolshevik leaders express the opinion that the probable penalty will be exile abroad for one year or more.

Artillery reinforcements have been sent the Bolsheviks, who are now reported to be under the personal command of Ensign Krylenko, the Bolshevik commander-in-chief. Sailors from Helsingfors and several regiments from the northern front have arrived in Petrograd.

NINETY-NINE PER CENT OF GERMANS WANT PEACE

London, Dec. 14.—Phillip Scheidemann, leader of the German Socialists, either in Stockholm or on his way there and pan-German newspapers ask what he is going there for, according to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen. The vorwärts, the Socialist organ, says that Herr Scheidemann is working for what "ninetynine per cent of the German people want, namely, peace."

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