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THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

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French Repulse All Hun Attacks Woevre Region

Artillery Duels of Vast Proportions Mark the Fighting Around Verdun Sector—Germans Succeeded by Surprise Attack in Champagne District in Entering a French Trench and Capturing 1000 Men—Heavy Artillery Fire Reported From Russian Front—Russians Repulse all Austro-Hungarian Attacks on Stripa River—Austrians Claim Success Over the Italians

LONDON, Feb. 29.—Throughout the entire sector of Verdun, except on the western bank of the Meuse River where the German bombardment has slackened somewhat, artillery duels are still in progress in vast proportions. To the south-east the French at Fresnes, in the Woevre region, have put down all German attacks against that town, but the Germans have inaugurated an important movement in the Champagne district where by a surprise attack, they succeeded in entering a French advanced position of a supporting trench over a front of nearly a mile, capturing more than one thousand men. Notwithstanding the fresh reserves which the French have thrown into the fray in front of Douaumont, the German War Office declared their efforts have been fruitless and that the Germans have advanced their lines towards Bras and Vacheraville. It is also claimed by the Germans that they have entirely expelled the French from the Meuse Plateau southward from Samogneux and west of Vacheraville.

On the Russian front, around Friedriehstadt and Iloukst, there has been heavy artillery, machine gun and rifle firing. In Galicia the Russians repulsed an attempt by the Austro-Hungarians to capture trenches on the Middle Stripa River. The Austrians, according to Vienna, have put down, with sanguinary losses, an Italian attack against their positions on both sides of Monte San Michele, east of Azzo. They also claim to have destroyed an Italian trench on the Gorizia bridgehead.

The Russian are still operating successfully against the Turks who fled from Erzerum and the Ottoman forces in the Persian battle zone.

DEAD

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—The death of S.S. Raymond, Vice-President of the Clyde and Mallory Steamship Companies, is announced here to-day.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Henry James, the novelist, died to-day.

THINKS NEUTRAL SHIPPING WAS EMPLOYED

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The British press is almost unanimous in assuming that the Maloja and other vessels, sunk by mines during the week-end, were the victims of fresh sowing of German mines.

There is much speculation as to how these mines could have been laid. The theory most frequently advanced is that certain classes of neutral shipping have been employed.

NATIONAL INTERESTS COME FIRST

PARIS, Feb. 28.—The Ministry of War announced to-day that owing to present military needs and suspension of navigation, freight cars cannot be placed at the disposal of commerce, except to a very limited extent.

The public will understand, says the announcement, that the interests of national defence must take precedence over private interests, and will accept with patriotic abnegation the new sacrifices which are imposed.

Huns Hand New Note To Lansing

Reiterates Assurances Regarding Future Conduct of Submarine Warfare—Attempts to Prove Britain Instructed Merchantmen to Use Armament for Purpose of Attack

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Germany, in a formal Note presented by Count Von Bernstorff to Secretary of State Lansing to-day, reiterates the assurances regarding the future conduct of submarine warfare given in the Lusitania case and declares these assurances have not been modified by the memorandum setting forth its intentions to treat armed merchantmen of the Entente Allies as auxiliary cruisers after mid-night to-morrow.

Attempts to justify the issuance of the memorandum was made by presenting evidence and assertions designed to prove that the British Government have instructed merchantmen to use their armament for the purpose of attack in violation of assurances given to the United States.

Outlines Big Navy For States

Naval Board Seeks Two Fleets—One in Pacific Powerful Enough to Defeat Any Enemy There—The Other in the Atlantic—Exceeded in Strength Only by Britain

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—The Navy General Board's conception of the needs of the United States as a naval power were outlined to House Naval Committee to-day by Rear-Admiral Knight, President of the War Navy College.

In formulating the policy that the Navy should equal the strongest afloat by 1925, he said the Board had in mind the establishment of two fleets, one in the Pacific, powerful enough to overcome any enemy there, the other in the Atlantic, where it would be exceeded in strength only by the British fleet. He said to accomplish this would insure the country against 99 out of 100 possibilities of international complications.

FROM THE "MALOJA"

DOVER, Feb. 28.—A later official announcement said that the number of passengers on the Maloja, known to be saved, exceeds seventy.

Insurance Rates Take Big Jump

Heavy Losses in Shipping Recently From Mines and Other Causes Have Stiffened Insurance Rates—Companies Fear Fresh Submarine Activity by Germans on March 1st

London, Feb. 29.—Recent heavy losses in shipping, especially during the week end, from floating mines and other causes has resulted in stiffening insurance rates. Underwriters last week quoted rates on shipping to the continent which were almost prohibitive.

To-day's figures for east coast traffic show an increase of from ten shillings to twenty shillings per cent.; insurance for the Mediterranean and other voyages have not changed greatly, although there is more hesitation than heretofore in accepting risks.

This probably is due to the fear of fresh submarine activity beginning March 1st when the German and Austrians decrees concerning the treatment of armed merchantmen as warships will take effect.

Huns Attempt to Break Thru French Lines

Germans Make Terrific Attempt to Break French Lines Upon Novevre Plains—Hope to Throw Heavy Forces Across the Meuse and Cut off Verdun From the South

PARIS, Feb. 28.—The French have been compelled to yield further ground to Germans in the great battle at Verdun, but heavy reinforcements have been rushed to the firing line, and enormous losses are being inflicted upon the attacking forces, as they roll forward against the devastating fire of machine guns and artillery. Although the Germans are making their greatest effort north east of Verdun, particularly around Douaumont, violent fighting is in progress all along the front from Champ Neuville to St. Mihiel about 50 miles away. A terrific attempt is being made by the Teutons to break the French lines upon the Woevre plains and to allow them to throw heavy forces across the Meuse at St. Mihiel to cut off Verdun from the south.

The French War Office admits a withdrawal in that region for strategic reasons, but claims that the fresh attacks of the Germans have been repulsed. Both sides are being constantly reinforced, and it is reported, but without confirmation, that British troops may be sent to Verdun to help the French if the situation there becomes any more serious. It is believed, however, that this may not be necessary as military experts declare that German assaults have already begun to grow weaker and that their rightful losses are having a de-fetious effect upon the morale of the Teuton troops. Fewer infantry attacks have been made by the Germans and they have been relying more upon their artillery.

On the other hand, the French have just begun to deliver their counter attacks in earnest, and mighty drives are being made against the German positions.

Great Violence Marks the Fight For Verdun

St. Pierre Bulletin

Paris vit St. Pierre, midnight, Feb. 28.—(Official).—In the Argonne our heavy batteries and field artillery opened up fire on the enemy's communications, especially in the district of Cheppy Wood.

At Hill 285 we exploded a mine and occupied the excavation. In district north of Verdun both artilleries are very active, except in the sector west of Meuse where the German bombardment had decreased.

During the day the Germans attempted several partial attacks, which were repulsed by our fire, and counter attacks west of Douaumont. Our troops engaged Germans in a hand to hand struggle, throwing them from a small redoubt they had succeeded in occupying.

In Woevre sector two attacks on Fresnes completely failed. In Lorraine our artillery was very active in Reillon, Lomevre, and Badonviller sections.

Mutual but slight bombardment on the Belgian front.

Would Sink All Shipping Armed or Not

Geo. Bernhard Advocates Sinking of all Shipping Bound For England—Says Hun Steamers Seized by Portugal Will be Used to Carry Food Stuffs to England

BERLIN, Feb. 28.—George Bernhard in a leading article in the Vossische Zeitung calls for the destruction of all ships bound for England, whether armed or not. He points to the seizure by Portugal of German ships, which he says will probably be used under the Portuguese flag to carry foodstuffs to England.

The writer fears that many German ships now lying in South American harbors may eventually be employed for the same purpose and asks, shall we then let these ships quietly pass which, as unarmed British merchantmen, cross the ocean? We shall have to do so if we hold the phantom of torpedoing only armed merchantmen and sparing neutral ships in all circumstances. Herr Bernhard thinks that the war should be carried out not against certain categories of British ships, but against British commerce on the seas. He declares the new submarine campaign is only permissible as a measure of reprisal against Britain's breach of international law. If this does not accomplish the object, which is to prevent provisioning Britain, he adds, a death blow can be dealt Great Britain only if we direct a request to all neutral states to be kind enough to keep out

Losses Have Got Beyond Calculators—Military Critics Think Few of the 300,000 Germans Who Began the Attack Will be Left at the Finish—If German's Succeed in Taking Verdun They Will Find it an Empty Shell—French People Show Calm Confidence in French Army

PARIS, Feb. 29.—The fight for the possession of Verdun goes on with increasing violence and multiplying in dead and wounded. At this point losses have got beyond the calculators. It is impossible to verify how many reinforcements the Germans have brought up, but military critics believe that of the three hundred thousand men who began the attack, few will be left at the end of the first week's fighting for Verdun. The object of all this sacrifice is now nothing but an ancient fortress, according to authoritative information. If the Germans take it they will find it but an empty shell. Fort Douaumont, before which such a sacrifice of lives has been made by its assailants, holds neither cannon nor garrison. It is six months since the French, putting into practice the lesson of the war showing that fortresses are more vulnerable than field works, stripped Verdun of all its provisions and munitions, as well as those in the surrounding forts, and sent them to the rear. Eighty thousand men and several hundred cannon would have been the trophy of the conquest of the place in September, 1914, but to-day Verdun is not a fortress. It has neither cannon nor garrison and no provisions except for the current needs of the population. The value of the town itself is scarcely more than that of any one of the villages to the north taken by the Germans the last six days.

The attitude of the people and Press of France show a calm confidence, which is heightened by pride in the heroic counter attacks the French are making. Their reliance is placed not in Verdun, nor in any other stronghold, but in the army, which the Germans must destroy before French confidence is shaken.

MORE OF IT

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—Fire broke out here to-day on the Eurymachos, a Russian ship, laden with munitions of war and about to sail for Vladivostok. The fire was extinguished after the ship had been seriously damaged. The cause is unknown.

of British coastal waters for a specified time, since otherwise we cannot assume responsibility for their ship losses.

Leading German statesmen, Herr Bernhard continues, must soon determine whether to take this course and he adds, it is not without risk, but the greatest risk would be neglected opportunity. Moreover since the American congress shows signs of demanding that the decision of international affairs be taken from the President's hands and placed in those of Congress.

ATTENTION IS DIVIDED BETWEEN BATTLE FOR VERDUN AND NEW HUN OFFENSIVE IN CHAMPAGNE

London Morning Papers Devote Much Editorial Comment on the Situation on West Front—The Times Thinks Situation Regarding Verdun as Serious—The Daily Telegraph Says Lull Will Enable Germans to Bring up Heavy Artillery—The Daily Mail Compares Verdun to Hun Attacks on Russians at Dunajec River Last April—Situation Regarded as Well in Hand

LONDON, Feb. 29.—The morning newspapers to-day devote many columns of space to the situation on the Western battle front. The fighting around Verdun divides attention with the new German offensive in Champagne to which the Times particularly attaches much importance. The expected offensive in Champagne, says the Times, has not been long in coming. The German stroke was sudden and succeeded in penetrating both the advanced and supporting trenches in the neighbourhood of Navarin Farm; but the claims made by the German official communication may safely be regarded as exaggerated. The region is deeply scored with French defence works, as formidable as these around Verdun. Should the German offensive develop further the French will be found to be fully prepared.

Regarding Verdun the Times thinks that while the situation is still serious, the French will have signal advantages of any further German attempts at advance.

Newspapers compare the French evacuation on the east front of Verdun to the British withdrawal from the Gallipoli Peninsula, saying the Germans did not discover for sixteen hours that the French trenches were empty.

The Times comments on the German attempt to batter to pieces the town of Verdun, but points out the town was evacuated by the civil population before the battle began.

The Daily Telegraph's military expert is scarcely as confident as other writers regarding Verdun. He declares the temporary lull will probably mean the Germans are bringing up heavy artillery closer to the permanent works of the fortress. He emphasizes the importance of the German success in crossing the main road of railway which connects Verdun with Metz, through Conflans.

ONE MORE ADDED TO LIST

LONDON, Feb. 28.—According to Lloyds the British steamer Southford formerly the Sinaad, has been sunk. Eleven of the vessel's crew were saved and two killed.

The Southford was a vessel of 897 tons.

THE BATTLE OF VERDUN DESCRIBED AS A FRIGHTFUL MASSACRE

"Advance no Matter What the Losses May be" Was Order Given Troops Before Attack on Fortress—Clash Was Murderous as French Infantry Charge First Ranks of the Germans—Events Have Taken a Turn Favorable to French Arms During the Past Twenty-Four Hours

PARIS, Feb. 29.—A frightful massacre is how the German soldiers taken prisoners in the battle of Verdun describe the effect of the French artillery, machine gun and rifle fire, but the impetus of the assaulting forces have not been diminished thereby during the first four days, because fresh troops were thrown into the battle unceasingly. "Advance, no matter what the losses may be," was the order given the German troops before the attack. This has been verified by documents found on one of the captured officers.


The most critical moment in the six days' action was when the Germans gained a footing in an entrenched camp, by the capture of Fort Douaumont. The least hesitation on the part of the defenders would have been fatal.

disastrous as the Germans redoubled their efforts to take advantage of any confusion, but the French immediately began a counter offensive. The French infantry advanced in double quick time when the trumpet sounded the charge and leaped at the first ranks of the Germans with irresistible fury. The clash was murderous. Both sides were thinned. The French ranks were not to be denied victory, but went on to the second German wing, while reinforcements were hurried to their support. The German lines wavered, at first west of Douaumont and then they were driven out of the ruins of the fort. A cry of triumph went up all along the French line and the order of counter-attack was redoubled. In the meantime an artillery duel surpassing in intensity any previous action of the war, added to the carnage of the battle, which seems now to have reached a critical point. The assaulting forces recoiled slightly in the region of Douaumont leaving the remnants which occupied the fort cut off and surrounded by French troops. Attacks upon the French left at Cote du Poivre seemed to have completely failed.

However, the attacks are made repeatedly with such heavy masses as the Germans are constantly bringing up that it is admitted by the military authorities is always likely they officers are willing to pay the price in human life.

There is no exaggerated optimism to be found in military circles here, but the check given the Germans when attacking in such formidable numbers is regarded by them as one of the great achievements of the war, and it is generally held that events have taken a turn quite favorable to the French arms during the last 24 hours.

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Sir Wilfred Laurier Pays Graceful Tribute to Memory of Late Sir Charles Tupper

Sir Wilfred Says the Great Standing of Canada To-Day is in No Small Measure Due to the Great and Active Life of the Old Conservative Chief.

The Mail and Advocate takes pleasure in giving to its readers to-day the magnificent eulogy by Sir Wilfred Laurier on the memory of the late Sir Charles Tupper, recently delivered in the Canadian House of Parliament. Sir Wilfred's address, for eloquence, accurate judgment, felicitous phraseology, sentiment and historical atmosphere, will rank with any orations he has pronounced in the course of his long and eventful public career.

MR. SPEAKER, the House of Commons will honor itself, even more than it will honor the memory of Sir Charles Tupper, by testifying in the most solemn manner its appreciation of the many services and arduous labors of one who in his time, and who must remain for all time upon its roll of honor, one of its most illustrious members, one who contributed in no small degree to make Canada what it is to-day.

Sir Charles Tupper was the last survivor of that galaxy of strong and able men whom the Canadian people delight to honor with the name of Fathers of Confederation. Amongst the able men, who in the fall of 1864, assembled in the city of Quebec with the object of finding a basis of union for the then disjointed provinces of British North America, and whose united efforts brought forth Canadian Confederation, the name of Tupper stands eminent among the most eminent. Fifty years more have passed since that date, and perhaps now, we are sufficiently removed from those stormy times to be able to frame a correct estimate of the part played by the statesmen of Canada in that intensely dramatic period of our history.

The Part Played by Brown. Undoubtedly to George Brown was due the first initiation of Confederation. He it was, who, by his strong and persevering agitation against the union of Upper and Lower Canada, directed the destinies of Canada towards the Confederation of the older provinces of British North America. It seems to be equally true that it was Sir George Cartier who first put the idea into shape, and set upon it the seal of his essentially practical mind, and brought to the support of the one province which was material to the idea, if he idea was ever to become a fact.

Galt's Share in the Work. By his talent and ability, Galt lent aid to the movement still more did he do so by obtaining for it the support of the strong and enthusiastic minority in the province of Quebec, of which he was the illustrious representative. It was the good fortune of Tilley to be able, almost from the first, to bring his province to support the idea with a minimum of division and difficulty. Then we come to Macdonald. It is on record that for many years he objected to any change in then existing conditions of things, and only a few days before the coalition of 1864 he had opposed the idea of a federal union. But when he did adopt the principle of Confederation, he became at once the captain and the pilot. It was his master hand that took hold of the helm, met difficulties as they arose, arrived at solutions of unforeseen obstacles, and steadily and unerringly directed the course until port was reached.

And what was the part of Tupper? In its day, this question of Confederation antagonized friends and divided foes. Now that we may look upon it in the calm judgment of history, it must be admitted, I think, that Tupper brought to the cause more firm conviction and took more chances than did any one else. It must be remembered that at that time Nova Scotia was completely against him, and that instead of losing time and patience to win the province over to the idea of Confederation, he forced it into a union by the doubtful authority of a dying Legislature. The grandeur of the idea strongly appealed to his mind, and he would not let pass an opportunity which might occur again for many years. It is not to be wondered at, because he loved not wisely but too well. Indeed, in order to understand the character of Sir Charles Tupper at this important juncture in the history of our country, we must remember what was the chief characteristic of the man. In my judgment the chief characteristic of Tupper was courage. Courage which no obstacle could daunt, which rushed to the assault, and which, if defeated, came back to the combat again and again; courage which battered and hammered, perhaps not always judiciously, but al-

ways effectively; courage which never admitted defeat, and which in the midst of overwhelming disaster had always the proud characteristic of unconquerable defiance. This attribute of courage was the chief characteristic of his whole public career, and it shone more brilliantly than any other trait of his character during the whole of his public life. It had not been his lot to be born to wealth or affluence. The son of a poor Baptist clergyman, he had succeeded by his own efforts in obtaining an education, and winning a diploma in the medical profession. He was a young practitioner, not known at all outside the precincts of his own city, and hardly known within them. The time came when he threw himself against a man who was the darling of the people, the most potent influence in Nova Scotia, and perhaps, the brightest impersonation of intellect that ever adorned the halls of the Canadian Legislature. Joseph Howe was then the member for Cumberland. In the province of Nova Scotia there is a tradition, still extant, transmitted from father to son, and repeated many times, that on one occasion, when Howe had addressed a meeting of his constituents and had brought about among his auditors a pitch of enthusiasm even greater than that which his magnetic eloquence had ever before elicited, a young man rose from the audience to reply. It is stated that Howe, who was somewhat surprised and not a little amused, looked on the young man with something like patronizing condescension. But if he was surprised at first, he had great cause for surprise when he listened to the address of his hitherto unknown opponent. He found that in the speech of this young man there was meat and substance which moved the people, and which gave cause for deep reflection. The tradition further has it that when Howe returned to Halifax he stated that he had met in Cumberland a young doctor who would be a tower of strength to the Conservatives, and a formidable foe of the Liberals. The truth of his prediction was soon borne out. At the elections which followed in 1855 young Tupper came forward against Howe in the county of Cumberland, and wrested it from him. Howe at that time was at the zenith of his fame. The Conservative party was then led by Sir William Johnson, a man of eminent ability who, far advanced in years and in poor health, was only too glad to rely on the services of a young man of so much promise. From the day that young Tupper came to the fore in the Legislature of Nova Scotia, he became the guiding spirit of his party and the inspiration of all his followers. Almost from the day his life became associated with the life of Canada, because it was only a few years afterwards, when he had become premier of his province, that the movement for Confederation was started. In that movement for Confederation, with all the excitement that it produced, and with all the agitation to which it gave birth, he found a genial field for his great parliamentary ability.

Tupper's Broad Conception. I have said that courage was his chief characteristic; but it was not his only characteristic. His mind had been cast in a broad mold. Whatever question he had to deal with he never approached it from the limited sphere of parochial limitation; on the contrary, he approached it always from the broadest conception it was susceptible of. When I entered this House, more than forty years ago, he was in the prime of life, and in the full maturity of his powers, always strong, always ready to accept battle and to give battle. Though often my judgment was against him, in every case I could not say that he was animated by anything else than the broadest view of Canadian political questions. When Confederation had become an accomplished fact he rose to the front in the broader arena, just as he had taken the first rank in the Le-

gislation of his own province. From the day that he first entered the Chamber of the House of Commons, now unfortunately destroyed, his powers asserted themselves, and were acknowledged by everybody. He came into the Federal House under the most distressing circumstances, because in the elections of 1867, the first after Confederation, his whole province had gone against him; he alone had succeeded in retaining a seat. But his conduct under these circumstances was worthy of all praise. He applied himself with untiring zeal to the task of binding the wounds of his province, and of reconciling the people to the new conditions. At first he met with no success, because only the soft hand of time could assuage the feeling which existed. He had not the quality of which Sir John A. Macdonald was pre-eminently the master; that of reconciling conflicting views and, with the minimum friction, of bringing all these different elements together as if they had been one.

Protection. In this House his name must ever remain attached to two different measures—measures very different in character, but each of which brought forth the particular quality with which he was endowed; I refer to Protection, and the Canadian Pacific railway. This is not the time nor the occasion to discuss Protection as an economic principle, but I think everybody, friend or foe, must admit that the introduction of Protection into Canada was primarily due to Sir Charles Tupper. Sir John A. Macdonald, as in the case of Confederation, had at first been rather indifferent and doubtful; Sir Charles Tupper never had a doubt. He it was who first became its advocate in his House, and he it was who carried on the agitation in the country; and in my humble judgment, great as was the personality and prestige of Sir John A. Macdonald, the victory of 1878 was due more to Sir Charles Tupper than to any one else. But it was not he, after all, who introduced the principle of protection as an actual measure. He had been the artisan, but he was not its champion in his House. That honor was reserved for Sir Leonard Tilley. But if Sir Charles Tupper did not introduce the protective measure in this House, it was simply because he did not choose to do so. He might have had the portfolio of Finance, but he rather chose the portfolio of Public Works, which at that time included railways. With this portfolio he had the occasion to attach his name to another very great measure, the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway.

The Canadian Pacific Railway. All parties in this country had been in favor of a transcontinental railway, but no party had taken up the question seriously until Sir Charles Tupper took it up with all the vigor of his nature. He organized the syndicate which built the railway, but notwithstanding the extravagant terms which were given the syndicate, such was the immensity of the enterprise that it was more than once on the eve of collapse. Nothing lent the courage of Sir Charles Tupper. He never had any doubt of its ultimate success, and it was his good fortune to see all his predictions more than fulfilled.

Sir Charles Tupper had reached the zenith of his fame and power in this House when suddenly he withdrew from parliamentary life to accept the High Commissionership in London. The reasons which induced him to that step were never given to the public. But whatever they might have been, we who were his opponents thought that he had committed a great mistake. Undoubtedly his services in London were honorable and useful to the country, but in my opinion he was more fitted for parliamentary life, and his services to the country would have been still greater had he remained on the floor of this Parliament. Though absent from Ottawa and in far-away London, his heart never deserted the field of his former activities, and when ever there was a battle to be fought he appeared on the scene, and, with his characteristic vigor, was always in the thickest of the fray.

Next to Sir John A. Macdonald, he was undoubtedly in his time the most dramatic figure in the Conservative party. Indeed, it has always been a mystery to me and to those who have sat on my side of the House that Sir Charles Tupper was not sent for when the old chieflain died. He was sent for at last, but then it was too late. The battle was already lost, and notwithstanding the vigor and brilliancy with which he threw himself into the fray, he could not redeem the fortunes of his party.

The public life of Sir Charles Tupper ended with the elections of 1900, when he had reached the age of almost eighty years. His strong constitution had at last been shaken by a life of arduous labor, and he with-

drew to a well earned rest. But through he retired from public life and the seclusion of his family circle, he continued from day to day to follow with passionate interest the fortunes of Canada. The correctness of his estimates of resources of this country, when they were still unknown and undeveloped, has been amply justified. When at last the end came his eyes closed upon a Canada whose population had doubled, whose commerce had risen from a comparatively small figure to the billion dollar mark, and whose products in agriculture and industry

had reached figures that would have seemed fantastic in the first year of the Union—a Canada whose people were united even to the shedding of their blood in the defence and for the triumph of those principles of freedom and justice which the Fathers of Confederation had secured for us under the aegis of British institutions. It would be too much to say that the life of Sir Charles Tupper was without fault; that cannot be said of any human life. But it must be said, and should ever be remembered, that but for the life of Sir Charles Tupper Canada would not be what it is today.

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Will be paid \$26 per month.

TAKE TRAIN TO MILLERTOWN OR BADGER.

War Messages.

British Rout Hostile Tribesmen in Egypt

Enemy Forces Under Command of Brother of Turkish War Minister Are Defeated by British Forces

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Additional advice regarding the fighting in western Egypt, in which the South African troops defeated the tribesmen, commanded by Turkish officers, were received by the War Office to-day from Major General Maxwell, commander of the British forces.

The report says: "The fight on Saturday last ended in a decisive success for us. The enemy were under the personal command of Nuri Bey brother of Enver Pasha, Turkish War Minister, with Gasfar as principal subordinate. They were holding a strong position some fifteen miles southeast of Barani.

General Peyton reports that the attack by South African infantry under General Lukin, was a complete success, that the charge of the Dorset-

WILL ALLOW TWO CARGOES THROUGH

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Great Britain will permit two cargoes of dyestuffs, valued at \$5,000,000, from Rotterdam to the United States. Ambassador Page in London has advised the State Department official here that he is hopeful Germany will make exception in its embargo by granting permission for their exportation.

KYLE'S PASSENGERS

S.S. Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques 8.20 p.m. yesterday with the following passengers—I. F. Perlin, W. A. Kelly, W. F. Alcorn, A. Frisham, Mrs. J. McDonald.

shire Yeomanry was brilliant and most effective. In this charge Gasfar was wounded and made prisoner. Nuri Bey was killed. The enemy left more than 200 killed and wounded on the ground.

In addition to Gasfar, two other Turkish officers were made prisoners. One machine gun was captured. The telegraph line between Tatruf and Barani has not been completely restored, so that full details of the affair are not yet at hand.

HUN FORCES AT VERDUN ARE 750,000

Paris, Feb. 29.—Military critics here express the opinion that the German forces which at the beginning of the battle around Verdun numbered probably half million men now exceed 750,000.

The situation is now decidedly better is the phrase commonly used this morning in the Paris press regarding the struggle for the great French stronghold.

The French are beginning to react vigorously against the German bludgeon strokes which are having less and less effect and are being delivered with diminishing energy. It is expressed here that they will be renewed again to-day but at new points.

The fact that the battle is now shifting is taken as a sign that the Germans general staff has begun to despair of making any real impression on the French defence.

It's Great---THE NICKEL To-Day---It's Great

Broadway's Biggest Sensation, THE Smashing Hit,

.. "413." ..

A three-part Vitagraph melo-drama with a thousand thrills—the most realistic train work ever filmed. Julia Swyne Gordon, Anita Stewart, and Harry Northrup are featured.

Thirteenth Chapter of THE SERIAL BEAUTIFUL,

"THE GODDESS."

BY ALL MEANS TAKE IN TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME AT THE NICKEL.

Wednesday—EXPLOITS OF ELAINE. -- Friday—THE WOMAN, 2 acts, with CHALIE CHAPLIN.

Crushing Blows Are Delivered By the French

London, Feb. 29.—The tide of battle around Verdun is not apparently set in favor of either side, while the Germans claim further advances the French are equally emphatic. They claim having checked all attacks of masses of German infantry sent against them.

Fort Rouaumont has fallen to the Germans but it is reported to be in ruins. Around this position the most desperate fighting of the battle has been going on since Friday. Here the French counter attacks were delivered with such crushing force that some German detachments were driven back; one regiment was almost encircled to the west of this fort in a hand to hand encounter.

The French have ejected the Germans from a small redoubt which they have captured.

Explosion Destroys Large War Plant At Woburn.

WOBURN, Mass., Feb. 29.—The Trinitrotoluol Building of the New England Chemical Company blew up with a terrific explosion early to-day. The trinitrotoluol stored in that section of the great chemical plant was said to be one of the most powerful explosives used in the manufacture of war munitions.

The plant was located in a remote section north of Woburn, away from the residential quarters, but 19 other buildings where heavy war contracts were being filled were located nearby and among these structures were those of the Merrimack Chemical Co. So great was the confusion immediately following the explosion that it was not known whether there was any loss of life.

Will Italy Declare War on Germany?

London, Feb. 29.—Great interest has been displayed here over the possibility of the declaration of war on Germany by Italy when the Italian parliament opens. At date of adjournment last December it was stated that Parliament would be convened on March 1st.

According to Rome despatches the Italian Government is not yet decided whether it will yield to popular demand for war with Germany.

Italian newspapers assert the Italian Cabinet Council yesterday voted to make a declaration on the subject in Parliament only if the Government was pressed to do so.

Mr. John Tapp, chief of the Harbor Grace Volunteer Fire Brigade is now in the city on a business visit.

The schr. Nellie Louise, Capt. Burke, arrived at Pernaam Saturday after a run of 36 days, all well.

Mrs. Delaney of Placentia Bay arrived here by last night's train for hospital. She suffers from a very sore leg.

The S.S. Alconda sailed this forenoon for London with 4,000 tons of pulp and paper. Rev. Mr. Clayton of St. Thomas's Church went in her with the intention of offering his services as chaplain to the British government.

Besides the letters already received Mr. Eli Whiteway had another to-day from his son Alder of Ours. He says that he received all the parcels and letters sent him by his parents and friends and they were very welcome.

Capt. Strong to-day had two letters from his son, Lieut. Chas. Strong, written at Suez. Charlie is in the best of health and says that all our boys are in good fettle and are anxious to have a "go" at the Turks.

Mr. Jacob Belbin of Cabot Street had a letter from his son, Corporal Chesley Belbin, a couple of days ago. Chess is progressing favorably at Wandsworth and is hopeful that he will soon be in a position to get back with the Regiment. He went to hospital suffering from enteric.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

Turks Lose Heavily In Surprise Attack

British Forces Bombard Turk Positions on Left Bank of Tigris—General Aylmer is Gaining Ground

LONDON, Feb. 28.—An official communication concerning operations of the British in Mesopotamia was made public this evening. On the morning of the 22nd General Aylmer bombarded the enemy camp on the left bank of the Tigris to make him disclose his dispositions and at the same time inflict the maximum amount of damage. The enemy, taken by surprise, lost heavily. Useful information was obtained by aeroplanes. A small column from Nasiriyeh moved out against a hostile concentration force four miles north of that place. The enemy fled, after suffering severely. Our casualties were nil.

General Aylmer continued his operations next day with the object of securing a forward position on the right bank and bring a reverse fire on the enemy's position at Hannah. On the 25th two of our aeroplanes flew from Basra to General Aylmer's force. The river is rising and a flood may be expected in a few days. A second disturbance between Turkish troops and the populace at Naif is reported.

A telegram dated the 26th says that an effective bombardment of the enemy's camp at Hannah is being carried out.

HOSPITAL SHIP STRIKES MINE AND IS SUNK

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Sinking of the hospital ship Mare Chiaro near San Giovanni di Medua, Albania, is reported in a despatch from Rome to the Exchange Telegraph Co. The vessel is said to have struck an Austrian mine. It is reported that there were numerous victims.

The Italian steamer Mare Chiaro was 412 tons gross, 175 feet long, built in Ancona in 1912, and was owned at Naples.

Union Trading Co's First Annual Sale!

UNEXCELLED because of the extraordinary values that are being offered at Surprisingly Low Prices despite the recent advances that have taken place. Included in this sale you will find a number of oddments that come in for every-day use, all reduced down as to make a Genuine Bargain-Giving Event. Our advertisement does not cover all. To know the Big Savings you will effect give us a call.

BIG FURS REDUCTION!
All our Furs Reduced down far below the regular prices.
POSITIVELY
The Biggest Values ever offered in Furs.

BLOUSE BARGAINS
Ladies' Velvet Blouse, trimmed with pretty lace. \$1.60
Reg. \$1.90 value.
Ladies' Fancy Delaine Blouse, High Collar, Lace Yoke, Tuck Front. Regular \$1.20 95c.
Ladies' Repp Blouse, Green and Grey only. Regular 90c. \$1.10 value.
Dark Fancy Blouses, Low Collar. To clear at... 50c.
Cream Stripe Flette Waists, Detachable Collar. To 50c.
Fancy Colored Blouses, High Collar. To clear at 40c.

JAPANESE SILK
In several leading shades, 25c. per yard.
Slightly imperfect, but not sufficient to injure its usefulness.

CHILDREN'S READY-TO-WEAR SPECIALS!
Children's Tweed Dresses, \$1.90 up.
Child's Blue Cloth Dress, with Velvet Collar, \$1.70 up.
Child's Tweed Dresses, 65c.
Child's Shepherd Check Dresses, 55c.
Child's Blue Serge Dresses, 70c.

MEN'S OVERCOATS
Men's Tweed Overcoats. Reg. \$7.00 value. \$6.00 Now.
Men's Mottled Blanket Overcoats. Reg. \$15.00 value. \$13.00 Now.
Odd sizes only.

MEN'S SHORT COATS
\$2.70 & \$3.90 each.
Regular \$3.20 and \$4.50 values.

MEN'S VESTS
Corduroys, Serges and Tweeds to clear at 60c. each.
Chiefly in small sizes.

BIG SHIRT VALUES
Men's Negligee Shirts, made of strong Repp material; French Cuffs, Double stitched, Reinforced back and front. Full regulation size. Regular \$1.75 value. \$1.35
Men's Stripe Percalé Shirt with Laundered Cuff. \$1.00 Reg. \$1.20. Now.

These Remarkable Shirt Offers cover about 11 dozen and can be had in any size.

MEN'S COLLAR SPECIAL!
White Laundered Collars, in low & medium height. 10c. All sizes. Each.

MEN'S SUSPENDERS
Made from good, strong, durable Elastic Webbing with Stitched Buff Leather 28c. Button Straps. Each

MEN'S NECKWEAR SPECIALS
10c. each.

YOUTHS' SUITS
Not Many in the Lot.
While they last you can secure them from \$1.20 to \$2.00 each, which is 20 per cent. under regular prices.

BOYS' OVERCOATS
Remainders in odd sizes of a lot which cannot be duplicated. Regular \$4.50 value. Each... \$3.00

BROWN BLANKET SPECIAL!
\$2.50 per pair.
With the present tendency for advancing prices it will be some time before an offer like this will come again.

BOOT SPECIALS!
Infants' Boots in Pink, White, Blue and Tan Colors. 28c. Pair.
Men's Gun Metal Boots. Regular \$3.20 value. \$2.80 Pair.
Women's Gun Metal Boots with Gray Cloth Uppers. \$2.20 Regular \$2.70 value.
The above are in odd sizes only with exception of the Infants' sizes.

OTHER ODDMENTS CONSISTS OF
Dress Material Ends, Blouse Flannelette Ends, Cream Flannelette Ends, Fleece Calico, Savon Cretonnes, White Dress Ducks, London Smoke, Khaki Material, Percalés, Cotton Tweeds, Floor Drugget, etc., etc.

Fishermen's Union Trading Co'y.

THE CRESCENT PICTURE PALACE.

"Mrs. Van Aldens Jewels"
A Detective Drama in 2 Reels produced by the Biograph Co.

"Masked Fate"
A Serial Melo-Drama with Isabel Rea and a strong cast.

"Hearst Selig News"
Containing all the World's Latest Happenings.

"The Broken Pledge"
An Essanay Comedy with Wallace Beery.

BARITONE SOLOIST DAVE PARKS Singing Classy Ballads and Popular Songs.

GOOD MUSIC AND EFFECTS—A COMFORTABLE AND WELL VENTILATED THEATRE.



HAVING enjoyed the confidence of our outport customers for many years, we beg to remind them that we are "doing business as usual" at the old stand. Remember Maunder's clothes stand for durability and style combined with good fit.

John Maunder
Tailor and Clothier
281 & 283 Duckworth Street

SEALING CREWS

S.S. 'VIKING' and S.S. 'RANGER' will be signed THURSDAY and FRIDAY.

Ships will sail noon Saturday, March 4th

Bowring Bros., Limited.

Hon. R. A. Squires, K.C., LL.B. Mr. J. A. Winter

Squires & Winter,

Barristers, Solicitors and Notaries.

New Bank of Nova Scotia Building,
Corner Beck's Cove and Water Street.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

IN STORE

387 Bales

No. 1 HAY

The Quality is
Extra Good.

J. J. ROSSITER

Real Estate Agent

Our Motto: "Suum Cuique."



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

Issued every day from the office of publication, 167 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Company Limited, Proprietors.
Editor and Business Manager: JOHN J. ST. JOHN.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., FEB. 29th., 1916

TONNAGE QUESTION

WE do not consider the tonnage question as serious, as some contemporaries would have the public believe. The coal and flour question can easily be settled by utilizing the sealing steamers the coming season. Let the Reids place sufficient rolling stock and cars on their lines and place the Neptune and Newfoundland on the Sydney-Port aux Basques service next season and the flour question will come out alright.

It is the duty of the Government to see that this is done by the Reid Nfld. Co. The rolling stock should be secured at once. That is an obligation that the Reids must shoulder or the Colony will be entitled to very heavy damages for negligence to meet those obligations, according to the terms of the Railway Acts.

There will be no serious shortage of flour this Spring. Most fishermen purchased a full year's supply of flour last fall, and very little will be required for supplies the coming spring.

The coal question will work out satisfactory. A large fleet of coasters will engage in carrying coal to outports when the spring opens. The price will be about \$1.00 higher than last year's prices for outport delivery, or about \$3.50 per ton.

The Terra Nova, Eagle, Ranger, Viking, Erik and other sealing steamers will suffice to supply all the coal requirements for St. John's next season.

House holders should make a point of buying in supplies for the winter earlier than usual and thus dispense with storing big supplies. The coal should be carted from the steamers as they arrive in the early season in order to prevent the blocking of the sheds, thus enabling the steamers to continue in the service from the opening of the season to the close.

As for salt, there will be about 30 steamer loads of pit props for export to Britain. The Government can easily arrange with the owners or with the British authorities, for a few loads of salt by such steamers. Coal can be taken from Britain to France or some Mediterranean ports. This would remove any loss of money on the part of steamer owners in going to Spain for salt.

The freight on salt is about 30 shillings per ton at present and that figure would well pay them

for the delay in discharging salt cargoes here. The steamers will make safer and quicker trips across the Atlantic if three-fourths loaded, than they would if no cargo was carried. Again some of them may be requested to call at Liverpool and take freight offering for this port.

It don't require many wise heads to make such arrangements, and there is no reason why such arrangements cannot be made by the Government without much delay.

THE FISHERY

PRICES abroad are being maintained, and when the Lenten demands are met, there will be no surplus stocks abroad. The stocks here are not large. Exports will be very considerable during March if sufficient tonnage is available. A steamer to load fish for Europe taking about 25,000 qtls. is due in ten days.

The Brazilian markets keep brisk and prices are being maintained.

All the Western winter fish taken is being sold green. The catch is 50 per cent. below that of last winter's.

All the liver is being utilized for cod liver oil and several exporters, are after the short supply available. The manufacturers have paid 20 cents and 25 cents per gallon for liver; this is too little, the fishermen should have received at least 30 cents per gallon for all their sales. Cod liver oil is easily worth \$2 per gallon, and \$2.50 would not be hard to procure from Montreal and New York importers.

Cod oil supplies are the shortest known to the trade for fifty years. The whole available supply of cod oil in Canada, America, England and Newfoundland do not to-day exceed 1000 tons, as against a usual supply of ten times 1000 tons. There will be no new oil offering until July.

The high price of cod oil has retarded the consumption. Whale oil and herring oil has been used as a substitute, and leather made from those oils will prove defective; consequently there will be a severe defection in leatherware placed in the market this Spring and Summer. There can be no substitute for cod oil for tanning, if quality is to be No. 1.

THOSE INTERVIEWS

MR. COAKER has been shown several interviews alleged to have been given by him during his visit to Canada which appeared in Canadian papers, some of which have been republished locally, and he authorizes us to state that he is not responsible for any that has appeared.

Those from Ottawa, stating Mr. Coaker may lead the Government Party at the next election, are utterly unfounded and pure concoction, as Mr. Coaker absolutely refused to see any newspaper reporters at Ottawa. The contents of those reports was not discussed or spoken of at Ottawa; and the statements made are absolutely untrue.

As for another that appeared in The Star yesterday, Mr. Coaker authorizes us to state that he gave no interview to any Star representative, and authorized nothing for publication; and further, what is reported to have been said by Mr. Coaker is incorrect.

Mr. Parsons, formerly a reporter of The Telegram, spoke to Mr. Coaker on Saturday, as he was entering the Water Street store after dinner hour, and Mr. Parsons passed a few remarks in the ordinary way with Mr. Coaker, but not for publication; and what appeared in The Star is not a correct report of the few words that passed between Mr. Coaker and Mr. Parsons.

Mr. Coaker's notes of his trip, which are appearing in our columns, express his opinion clearly, and are open and above board, a true and correct account of events that transpired during his four

IS THE END NEAR?

FROM present indications, the war outlook is very cheering; and there are many who see in the activities of the Allies both on the Western and Eastern fronts, the dawn of victory for the cause of right.

A fierce engagement, almost general in its extent, is now in progress on the Western front where the sectors of Soissons, Arras, Champagne, Verdun and Upper Alsace are the scenes of continuous attacks and counter attacks. La Champagne is especially the object of Teuton attacks, as they wish doubtless to avenge the bloody defeat which they suffered at the hands of the French in September.

The French are not taking any chances on being surprised by Hun duplicity; and they are ready at every point of the great battle-line which extends from Belfort to Westende. The Hun efforts to again reach Paris, will be foiled; as to-day they are face to face with a barrier three times as solid as that against which they hurled their onslaught on the banks of the Marne in September, 1914. The Allies' ring of steel is being constantly strengthened; for we learn from recent reports that Great Britain has more than a million soldiers in France and Belgium, with large reserves to fill any possible gaps.

The condition of the Allies on the Eastern front is even more encouraging. The Russians have recently crossed the Dnieper at several points and are pressing irresistibly the Austro-German troops who are trying to defend Bukovina and Galicia. The charges of the Muscovite army are so formidable and insistent in both sections that the Central Powers are forced to retain there the army corps which they had set off for action in Saloniki. In Persia and in the Caucasus the Russian march goes on swiftly; and the fall of Erzerum has demoralized the Turkish forces which are now, so recent despatches tell us, in full retreat to the Westward. This means speedy relief to the beleaguered English column in the Mesopotamian Valley.

The Winter has been exceptionally mild in Europe and we may expect formidable activity on the part of the Allies very shortly. The recent visit of the French Premier to Italy synchronizes with a vigorous renewal of hostilities by the Italian armies in the vicinity of Isouzo.

Elsewhere similar activities are noticeable. We see that General Martinovitch is leading the Montenegrins against the 30,000 Austrian forces, who are heading for Durazzo; and there is constant fighting in Albania for the possession of this much desired territory on the part of Austria.

Bulgaria at the moment seems to be inactive; and some time ago we noticed that the Bulgars were anxious to make overtures for peace to the Allies. This is not surprising; for they have achieved their object—wrought vengeance on the Serbians; and there seems little else for them to do which would have any practical results. It is quite possible that the recent mobilization of the Roumanians and the arrival of re-enforcements at Saloniki made them fear the outcome.

The situation at the moment is the brightest since the beginning of the war; and there are many who believe that the end is already in sight.

The successful attacks made within the last months showed the penetrability of the German ring of steel on the Western front. These relieved the German pressure on Russia by the necessity which they brought about of transferring troops from the East to the West. The Allies have learned their superiority on ground chosen by the Germans, for every measure in the way of defence which was

weeks absence from Newfoundland.

possible even to German military science had been prepared. The Allies have learned that they could organize victory by preparations which outvalued even those of the Huns in their scientific precision and thoroughness.

In short, these successes have not only recovered initiative for the Allies, but have revealed the Secret of victory which consists in thorough preparation. Preparations of such a character could be made in a day; and these are being perfected with astonishing rapidity. When these preparations will have been thoroughly completed there will be disaster for the Hunish hordes who, in their frequent efforts to regain lost ground, have been persistently defeated.

We have no means of knowing the exact state of affairs in Germany; but that the situation is growing daily more appalling is evident from the little that leaks out from Berlin.

The ruling classes control systematically not merely the army and navy and the civil administration but even public opinion and the circulation of news. The Government furnishes "copy" to the newspapers, not only throughout the Vaterland but throughout the world; and Hun agencies doctor it for the areas in which it is to be circulated. In every country it has paid agencies, and either owned or subsidized newspapers.

There is now evidence that there is lack of organization in Germany: this will surprise many; but it is true. We gather this from very patent facts. During the last offensive of the Allies the Germans were compelled to send up as re-enforcements odd battalions wherever they could be secured; and their bluff of advancing into the Balkan area has been called. The fact that the Balkan effort has seriously crippled the German offensive; the real aim of their Balkan activities was to call off portions of the Allied forces from what will be the decisive scene of the conflict. Germany is now practically at a standstill, or receding; and the former avenue through which she could obtain supplies—the Baltic has been effectively closed to German commerce.

Then there is the disaffection of the populace; and the Socialist organ "Vorwärts" says:

"Less and worse meat; bread with nothing in it; half the usual quantity of butter and eggs; the smallest and commonest kinds of dry and fresh vegetables; sugar very limited; cocoa, tea and coffee practically given up; potatoes and war bread the principal means of nourishment."

The Government has had to take over the distribution of food; and discontent is general.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

FEBRUARY 29

EDWARD M. JACKMAN born, 1868.

Emir of Afghanistan adopts the Scotch bag-pipes as his national musical instrument, and ordered 200 of them from Scotland, 1888.

Governor Blake kills his first sea fowl in this country among the ice outside the Narrows; he was guest of Walter B. Grieve, 1888.

Wilson, son-in-law to President Grey of France, sentenced to two years imprisonment, and fined 4000 francs, and deprived of civil rights for five years for legion of honor scandal, 1888.

James Finn, cabman, died, aged 87, 1884.

Fire in New York city, involving loss to property of \$1,000,000, 1888.

The following men were lost in St. Mary's Bay, while on the ice attempting to board the French ship Violetta: John Power, Michael Power, Thomas Bowen and son, Michael Barry, Patrick Hayden, James Phelan, Geo. Rowsell and son, Michael Vail and son, Joseph Grace and Patrick Dobbin, 1875.

FISHERMEN, ATTENTION!

FIRST CLASS INVESTMENT.

38 per cent. Dividends in Four Years.

THE new issue of Shares in the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Limited, are now offered to the members of the F.P.U. Those Shares represent the additional Capital of \$150,000 recently authorized. The Shares are \$10 each. The new capital is to be used to extend the Company's business. A dividend of 10 per cent. has been declared for 1915. Thirty-eight per cent. dividends has been paid during the four years the Company has been in operation. The Company also possess a Reserve Fund equal to 40 per cent. of its capital and if it was possible to place the Trading Company's shares on the stock market, one share would easily fetch \$15. No better or safer investment exist in the Colony. Why bank your earnings at 3 per cent. when such a first-class investment is obtainable? Apply to Agents of the Trading Company where stores are operated or to the

Fishermen's Union Trading Co. Ltd.

Water Street, St. John's.

May Depend on Battle of Verdun

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The projected German submarine campaign was the subject of much speculation to-day in all quarters in London. Keen interest is displayed in the question as to whether Germany would commence operations on March 1, or postpone them for a month as had been reported from America might be done.

Many military experts expressed the opinion that the date for the beginning of the new submarine campaign would depend largely upon the outcome of the Verdun battle. They said that should Germany win an overwhelming victory they probably would feel in a position to ignore American views and proceed with the submarine campaign on March 1, as originally announced and press the forces of the Entente Powers, both on land and sea as hard as possible. If the Teutons suffer defeat at Verdun, it is believed here that they might be inclined to concede the postponement of the submarine programme until a more propitious time.

MANY LIVES LOST WHEN P.O. LINER SUNK

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The owners of the Peninsula and Oriental line steamer Maloja, which struck a mine and sank off Dover Sunday, announced tonight that the total number of persons saved from the disaster as 301. Of these 72 were passengers, 92 members of the European crew and 137 of the Lascar crew. The missing comprises 49 passengers, 20 members of the European crew and 86 Lascars.

ANOTHER "SCRAP OF PAPER"

BERLIN, Feb. 28.—Germany has addressed a sharp note to Portugal in protest against the seizure of German merchant vessels by the Portuguese authorities. This measure is characterized as a violation of Germany's treaty rights, and the hope is expressed that Portugal will rescind its action.

MORE MAIL MATTER SEIZED

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The British authorities at Falmouth took off the mail from the Holland-American line steamer Rotterdam, February 23rd, for New York, according to the Reuter's correspondent at the Hague. The steamer Lilly Reach has also been sunk. Eight of the crew are missing.

SWEDEN STEAMER MINED

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The Swedish steamer Knippla struck a mine and sank south of Falsterbo, Sweden. The crew were rescued. She was 521 tons. The steamer Lilly Reach has also been sunk. Eight of the crew are missing.

PIERCE FIGHTING STILL RAGES AT VERDUN

PARIS, Feb. 28.—Attacks by the Germans to the north of Verdun, where the battle for the fortress is still raging fiercely, were driven back by the French fire and counterattacks, according to official communication issued to-night.

Hard to hand encounters occurred west of the fort of Douaumont. The Germans were driven from a small redoubt which they had taken. German attacks at Fresnois in Woerwe, the communication added, completely failed.

Hjelp, Hjelp!

Bjornsen Bjornstern wjent swjmmi—
Hjst jostume he looked vjry sljft in.
Stjome djames hjaopened bly—
Tjook hjs djuds on the sljy—
Ajnd he's stjill rjunning ajfter thjose wjmmjn!

JACK-O-LANTERN

In the heavy rain storms which prevailed the past few days the gutters at the rear of the Post Office became choked and the basement of the place was flooded with water, so that caretaker Thistle had to move about on floating planks. The place had to be bailed out.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

**ELECTRICAL
THAWER**

FOR FROZEN PIPES.

Quickest & Economical. Phone 240

Take advantage of the unusual values now offered at our Annual 10c. Sale.

Gramophone Records, 17c.
Khaki Handkerchiefs, 14c.
Ladies' Collars, worth 20c.
Paint Brushes.
Paper Towels, 75 for 10c.
Boy Scout Water Bottles.
Curtain Net, and Yard Goods worth 15c. or 18c. per yard.
During this Ten Days Sale 10 Cents only.

ROBERT TEMPLETON,
333 Water St. St. John's.

LARGE LABRADOR CODFISH For Sale. Get Our Prices. SMITH CO. Ltd.



A TASTE of our Meat will convince you of its delicious flavor and splendid quality. We offer you only choice cuts of THE BEST MEATS. Why not try ordering whatever you need for breakfast and dinner here to-morrow? We feel sure that we can satisfy you both as to quality, fair weight and reasonable prices. M. CONNOLLY Duckworth Street.

J.J. St. John FLOUR, PORK, BEEF & OIL, Likely to go high. We can save you—To arrive—FIVE ROSES - QUAKER VERBENA ROBIN HOOD Very Choice Ribbed PORK. Small HOCKS. Choicest SPARE RIBS. Best PLATE and N. Y. BEEF. Everybody is talking of our ECLIPSE TEA, 45c. lb. as good as most 60c. Silver-Ware ready to be delivered, so bring along your Coupons from Monday, 27th inst. J.J. St. John Duckworth St & LeMarchant Rd

Valleyfield Unionists Trust Coaker Will Live Live Long to Carry on His Good Work

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—Allow me space in your much esteemed paper to insert a few remarks to our thousands of readers of how we are getting along here.
Our annual joint-parade took place on Feb. 15th., this being the day appointed and a day more suitable could not be had. The members of Pools Island Council gathered at the L.O.A. Hall at 11 a.m. The meeting opened and the necessary arrangements were made.
Leaving the hall at 11.30 we proceeded to the F.P.U. hall at Badger's Quay to co-operate with the Valleyfield Council. On arriving at the Hall there the doors were flung open and amidst ringing cheers our Pools Island friends entered the hall. After the cheering had ceased the chairman, Friend Spurrell, brought the meeting to order and read the circular letter just received. Several remarks were made on one subject which it contained but time and space would not permit much discussion.
At 1.45 p.m. we left the hall with the British Ensign at our lead, which was carried by Friend Job Spurrell. Bunting was flying in all directions. We then marched to the Methodist Church at Valleyfield where the Rev. Mr. Moore gave a very splendid address, taking for his text, psalm 133, "Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is brethren, to dwell together in unity."
After the service being over we resumed our line of march from the Methodist Church, following the road in an easterly direction through the settlement as far as Mr. David King's. Turning to our right we paraded up through the harbour on the ice on as far as South West Island. On turning at S. W. Island we gave three hearty cheers for our Pools Island friends. From there we wended our way to the F. P. U. Hall. After arriving at the Hall ringing cheers were given for the King and Royal Family, and lastly for President Coaker.
On entering the Hall we found that the good ladies had prepared a magnificent tea for us. After the singing of Grace tables were occupied and we soon began to satisfy the inner man. Immediately our Union friends were supplied. Doors were swung open to all and in a short time the Hall was packed to overflowing. We extend our hearty congratulations to the ladies who helped us out in our supper and also to our many Union friends who patronized the same. After tea being over and cakes being disapproved of, Chairman Friend Spurrell, asked the Rev. Mr. Leggo to give us a lecture, which he did.
The proceeds of our tea amounted to \$70.11 which will go toward expense of our Union store. Our friend, Chairman Job White, of Pools Island Council addressed the audience by thanking the ladies who so ably responded to our help at the tea. Three cheers were then given for our worthy President, after which the hall was cleared and the young folks indulged in a dance for a few hours.
In my closing remarks, I wish to congratulate the noble stand in which our worthy President has taken to uplift the toilers of this country. May he live long to carry on the good work which he has nobly took in hand.
ONE WHO WAS THERE.
Valleyfield, B.B., Feb. 19th.

Advices Mosdell to Make Another Move Quick

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—In your editorials I notice that once in a while you refer to Mosdell who apparently is the "Crackie" for a few individuals, viz.—Reids, Crosbie, Squires, Bishop and two or three others.
This Mosdell fellow, Mr. Editor, is of course their champion. In order to force this the above mentioned gentlemen would do well to read "Mosdell's Boomerangs" as published day after day in the Mail and Advocate. There's an old saying and a true one at that: "Once a Traitor always a Traitor," and if this is so, how then can a man of that type enjoy the confidence of any respectable citizen?
I claim sir, that no man who has any self-respect would associate with such a despicable creature. Therefore we are not surprised to hear that Mosdell is writing articles for Mr. Coaker and the Fishermen's Union. We are indeed well aware of the fact as to why another paper was started and with such an editor as the famous doctor. Imagine a creature like this trying to play second fiddle to the gang with the intention of injuring the F. P. U. But how sad to be disappointed when one begins to realize that his labours are all in vain. "Yes even this Star doctor." I have often heard it said that it is alright to be a pound wise and an ounce foolish. But this fellow Mosdell is right reverse. "Even a pound foolish and not quite an ounce wise."
My advice to the learned one is to go away West as quickly as possible and avoid the rush. I mean the rush of the letters that will be continually published in the old reliable paper the Fishermen's Advocate.
Yours as ever,
GEORGE.
Salvage, B.B., Feb. 24, 1916.

New Bay Elects Officers for 1916

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—We recently held our annual meeting and the following officers were elected for the present year:
Deputy Chairman—Cuthbert Moors, re-elected.
Secretary—Willis Spencer, re-elected.
Treasurer—Ezra Moors, re-elected.
W. SPENCER, Secretary.
New Bay, Feb. 6th., 1916.

Furniture for Hard Wear and Home Comfort

AS a New Year Special we are offering our many friends and customers in the outports a large stock of Household Furniture, built on fine solid lines, and guaranteed to withstand hard wear and good service.
This stock includes every thing needed for the comfortable furnishing of a home. White Enamel and Brass Bedsteads, Dressing Tables, Washstands and Chairs for the Bedroom, Tables, Arm Chairs, Dining Chairs, Sofas, Canvas and Linoleums. A specially low price will be made on all immediate orders, and full particulars, with prices, will be sent by mail on application.
Any order received by us will receive immediate and careful attention, and will be packed and shipped by first available express or steamer. For good goods, prompt services, and reasonable prices try the

U. S. PICTURE & PORTRAIT CO., COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS.

OUR SOLDIER BOY.

He's gone from us our dear brave boy,
A soldier o'er the sea,
May God protect his dear young life,
And bring him back to me.
He was a brave and faithful lad,
And loved the Saviour too,
He said it was his duty to fight
For the old Red, White and Blue.
He often talked it o'er with me
And begged me let him go,
Although it nearly broke my heart
I could not answer no.
I told him for to ask the Lord,
Who ruleth over all,
And so I have, he firmly said,
I know he has given the call.
Well go I said, I give you up
Into His loving care,
Thy will be done, oh Holy One,
Help me my cross to bear.
And in his letters many
Which I receive from Ayr,
He always says have courage,
"Cheer, up mother dear."
He says twill give me courage
Out there in the trenches,
Or wherever I may be,
To know that you are praying at
Home to God for me.
To die out in the trenches
I'm satisfied he said,
For Jesus will stand by me,
And lift my drooping head.
God bless our boy and keep him safe
From the enemy's cruel hand,
And bring him back in health and
peace.
To dear old Newfoundland,
God bless them all,
Yes, every one, and bring them
safely back,
And may we still see flying
The dear old Union Jack.
"A MOTHER."
Musgrave Town, Feb. 22, 1916.

Budget of News from Flat Is., B.B.

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—The Union held its annual parade on Thursday the 17th inst. The ice being solid they paraded to the North Island and back to the hall where the ladies had tea waiting for them which was enjoyed. After tea the children had the hall for amusement and after that a dance was kept up till daylight by the Union friends, and all wish the President a pleasant trip to the U. S. A. and a safe return to Newfoundland to take up his duties and to drive the Union ahead in every harbour and rout grabbalism forever from Terra Nova.
Friend Reuben Samson met with a painful accident while hauling wood on a near-by island, the slide turned over and broke his leg. His brothers brought him home and nineteen volunteers took him in a skiff to Salvage where he is undergoing treatment from Dr. J. MacDonald. We wish him a speedy recovery as he is much missed by our Council.
The W.P.A. had a box sale in the L.O.A. Hall and raised the sum of \$40.00 which will be spent in yarn for socks and other things for the Nfld. Regiment at the front. We hope they will receive same.
Birds are very scarce here this winter, only a small lot have been killed this winter. Our Chairman has the only harp seal taken up to the present.
Some of our fishermen friends got their motor boats finished and have been fitting up their codtraps for the coming summer. We wish them every success in their undertaking.
There is about 100 codnets knitted here this winter. The bottom is very bad for handling them. The writer would like to know where they are going to be set if they have to go fifty fathoms apart. Some have been 12 days mending one forty-fathoms, so you see the bottom is not glass here.
Some of our folks are getting uneasy about their sons who are at the war, as they have not received a letter from them for about four months. We trust they will turn up o.k.
There passed peacefully away on Monday morning Thomas Ralph at the age of 76. He was able to go about from house to house till Saturday. He was taken suddenly ill as he was coming out of his store and fell and never regained consciousness. The deceased leaves five sons and one daughter and a large circle of friends to mourn him. We extend them our sincere sympathy.
There are five of our boys going to the ice this spring two in the Florizel, two in the Eagle and one in the Terra Nova. We wish them success.
CORRESPONDENT.
Flat Is. B.B., Feb. 17, 1916.

SWEATER COATS for Ladies' and Gents Assorted Sizes. ONLY \$1.00 --Exceptional Value-- Drop in and secure one. They won't last long at the price. STEER BROS.

Toilers Determined to Stand by Coaker and the Union

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—Please permit me space in your valuable paper for a few lines concerning our parade. On February 2nd at 1 p.m. we gathered at the Union hall and made all arrangements. We let the "big bugs" know that we are still on deck. It was a grand day and bunting was flying on scores of poles. We had a most enjoyable time. When we returned back to our F. P. U. Hall we partook of the refreshments prepared by the ladies who are ever ready to help the good old F. P. U. We then adjourned to the ground flat where we had an enjoyable time with the younger folks at their games.
Go on Mr. Coaker we are more determined than ever to back you up in your noble fight. You are the right man in the right place; you are the means of putting thousand of dollars in the fishermen's pockets, which they would never have if there was no Union or Coaker. Thanking you for space.
Yours etc.,
LEVI E. HICKS.
Doting Cove, Feb. 13, 1916.

ITALIANS EVACUATE PORT OF DURAZZO

ROME, Feb. 27.—An official statement confirms the report of the evacuation of Durazzo by the Italian, Serbian, Montenegrin and Albanian forces.

OUR ANNUAL February FURNITURE Sale Starts To-Day, Feb. 5th, 1916. This Sale will bring you into touch with the very best values ever heard of in reliable, substantial, modern furniture. The values this February will be the very climax of all our Bargain Giving. Genuine reductions from 25 to 50 per cent. See our West Windows for specials in Bedding. We list a few of same, many others offered.
Our Combination Lath and Spring Bed, with Wool Top Mattress, only \$6.95 complete. Our 731 Bed, with Woven Wire Spring and Wool Top Mattress, only \$7.50.
Our New Idea Spring, built right into the bed, is the latest out. No wood whatever, perfectly sanitary, and sells \$1.00 cheaper than with wood. We can fit it to your own bed, as we have the machines to do it with. See sample in window.
The Ideal Spring is so well known that it hardly needs recommending. It has 120 springs, fastened securely, and will not sag. Guaranteed to last a lifetime.
Our Crescent Felt Mattress is built of the best material, competes with the Ostermoor, so well known, but sells for \$5.00 less owing to duty and freight saved.
Our New Health Mattress, 6 inch bands, are perfectly sanitary. Well made by skilled workmen. We have them in 3 grades from \$5.00 up. Other Mattresses from \$2.00 up.
We have also Pillows, Bolsters, Cushions, and can not only make but renovate any Mattress, Beds, &c., now in use; also repair Springs, as we have in our building the only weaver of wire in the country. No size too small or too large for us to handle. See our special Wire Stretchers from \$2.50 up. Just the thing for making extra beds by night and remove by day, as it shuts right up. Inspection invited.
The C. L. MARCH Co., Ltd. Cor. Water and Springdale Streets.

Annual Meeting Masonic Society

Officers For District Grand Lodge Under the English Constitution Are Elected—Secretary's Report Well Received by Large Gathering

Last night the annual meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the English Constitution, was held in the Temple. District Grand Master Chiff presiding, supported by R. W. Bro. C. R. Duder, D.G.M., S.C., Dep. Dist. G. M. James Scott, and D. G. M. Deputy Tasker Cook. There was a large gathering of brethren present.

Mr. Harvey, Supt. Engineer of the Reid Co., left here Sunday for Port aux Basques to hold a survey on the damage received by the S.S. Sagona. Her damages are not as severe as first reported and she will likely come here without assistance.

Secure your tickets at once for the Mount Cashel entertainment on Wednesday evening next, March 1st, at the Casino Theatre. A splendid programme has been prepared.

THEY WERE STOLEN

Yesterday we referred to the fact that a few days ago the celebrated Rd. Gray who got six months for theft yesterday in Court was selling on Water Street a pair of ladies boots and hockey skates.

The ice being bad the hockey match Terra Nova vs. St. Bon's set for last night had to be postponed.

WHY YOUNG MEN DON'T MARRY

You will learn that along with other good things at the Sociable that the Congregational Ladies' Aid Society intend holding on Wednesday evening, March 1st, in the Lecture Room of the Church.

LOCAL ITEMS

We have been asked by the Secretary of the Catalina of the Overseas Club to state that Sir William Howard, C.J., has kindly consented to act as patron of the Club.

The Florizel, Capt. Martin, sailed this morning for Sydney with these passengers—P. Dean, G. F. Glenn, L. J. Cashin, A. Baird, Mrs. A. B. Morine and eight second class.

Reports from the Southern Shore yesterday stated that there was a good deal of loose slob ice along the coast. It is not heavy enough to interfere with shipping.

The crew of the Bloodhound will sign on March 8th, and those of the Viking and Ranger will sign Thursday and Friday next, both sailing for Channel to clear for the Gulf seal-fishery Saturday.

Miss Hazel Lewis one of the most popular operators at the Central Telephone office has resigned her position there and will go later to Montreal where she will likely graduate as a nurse.

Where Our Boys Are

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir.—The reason, which led the authorities to ask that the name of the place where the boys of our Regiment are quartered be withheld from publication, does not now apply, and the censorship has been lifted in this respect.

DURANGO HERE

The S.S. Durango arrived here at last night after a run of 11½ days from Liverpool. She is fair with frost, but had very stormy weather on this coast, made in at Cape Race, and reports that from that point to port she met a lot of loose slob ice.

NOTICE

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to approve of the following Regulation:—"For the season of 1916 only, the taking of Rabbits by snares (but by no other means) is hereby permitted until the first day of April, 1916."

COOPERS, ATTENTION!

We are Sole Agents for the BEST BARREL HEATER in the Country. We have them now ready for delivery. R. CALLAHAN, Water St.

H Company Slowly Growing

The Past Few Days See Quite a Few Recruits Enlist—Many Are Preparing For Non-Coms. Examinations

Recruiting has improved somewhat of late and during the last few days, beyond the Grand Falls men, the following have enlisted, bringing the number on the roll up to 2387: John L. Dee, St. John's.

GRAND FALLS VOLUNTEERS.

Henry J. Carter, Gambo, B.B. Hubert Edwards, Catalina, T.B. Samuel Edwards, Catalina, T.B. Hayward Ball, Grand Falls, C.B.

UNDER the Distinguished Patronage of H. E. the Governor, Grand Patriotic Hockey Match, Prince's Rink, Thursday, March 22nd, at 7.30 p.m., Past vs. Present College Boys. General Skating after match. Admission 20 cts., Reserved seats 50 cts.

NO BERTHS

The offices of the owners of the different sailing steamers contain notices saying that berths for the seal-fishery are not procurable. Berths this year are very scarce and men who have not secured them already and who came to the city from outports only incur trouble for themselves and unnecessary expense.

V. C. and British Colonel

Dark, Mixed IS GREAT. TRY IT

At the Royal Cigar Store, Bank Square, Water Street.

OUR THEATRES

THE NICKEL. Immense audiences attended the splendid programme of pictures at the Nickel theatre yesterday. Patrons went there expecting something good, and they were not disappointed, as the show was one of the best ever given in St. John's.

MR. COAKER'S TRIP.

We hope to publish the continuation of Mr. Coaker's description of his trip in to-morrow's issue. ENJOYABLE LEAP YEAR ENTERTAINMENT. The Leap Year entertainment held at St. Andrew's club rooms last night began with an auction bridge tournament, which concluded at 10 o'clock.

C. C. C. AT-HOME

Once again we would remind our readers of the C. C. C. At-Home to be held to-night. It will certainly be the affair of the season, will be most enjoyable music and the gay dance will be features in which all can engage, and we bespeak for the promoters a record attendance of the public.

A VINDICTIVE ACT.

Saturday night late poultry coop of a gentleman who makes a specialty of raising valuable fowl were visited by some envious or vindictive person, and three imported birds, White Wyandottes, valued at \$25 stolen. They had taken prizes in three successive years at the Poultry Show.

BAD WEATHER NORTH

Letters received in the city recently say that this has been one of the most stormy and cold winters experienced there for several years. For over six weeks, with little intermission, the glass has been well below zero. Snow storms have been frequent and all the harbors and bays have been solidly frozen over.

A WORTHY INNOVATION

The members of St. Andrew's Patriotic Association are about to prosecute a new idea in sending comforts to our boys at the front. They will hold a sock social in the Presbyterian Hall on March 14th, admission to which will be contingent on the presentation of a pair of new socks or its equivalent in money.

DEATH

RYAN—This morning, after a short illness, Catherine, beloved wife of Richard Ryan (late warden H. M. Penitentiary) aged 75 years. Funeral on Thursday at 2.30 p.m. from her late residence, 11 William St.

Has High Praise for Nfld. Regt.

The Governor Hears From Suez of How Our Boys Carried Out Their Share of the Work on Gallipoli

The Brigade was holding trenches very close to the Turks on the left centre of our line. The Newfoundland Regiment was at first in reserve. Whilst in reserve all officers and the different companies were sent up to the trenches and attached to Regiments in the firing line to get practical instruction in trench warfare.

MOUNT CASHEL ANNUAL CONCERT

The annual concert in aid of Mount Cashel to be given in the Casino tomorrow evening promises to surpass anything which has yet been done in this connection.

The concert will be in the direction of Mr. T.H. O'Neill whose experience in this direction is such as to insure a well arranged programme. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Davidson and Right Rev. Monsignor McDermott will attend, and the advance sale of tickets at the Atlantic Bookstore assures the usual crowd.

ADMITTED TO BAIL

Yesterday F. Piercey who is held on a charge of setting fire to and burning the railway station at Bishop's Falls, was admitted to bail to appear at the next criminal term of the Supreme Court.

OPORTO MARKET

This Week Nfld. Stocks, 58.680 Consumption, 3,525 Norg. Stocks, 410 Last Week Nfld. Stocks, 62,215 Consumption, 2,820 Norg. Stocks, 410 Consumption, 190

"CLOVER LEAF" TOBACCO.

ASK FOR "CLOVER LEAF" THE BEST FISHERMAN'S TOBACCO ON THE MARKET. TRY A PLUG. M. A. DUFFY, SOLE AGENT.

OFFICIAL CASUALTY LIST

FIRST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT FEBRUARY 28th, 1916 10955 Private James Ford, Cape Chidley, Labrador. Died of measles, Scotland, Feb. 26. Additional Information 1199 Joshua Short, New Bonaventure. Previously reported with dysentery, slight; Giza, Cairo, Oct. 25. Now reported to be dangerously ill with pneumonia, 17th Stationary Hospital, Port Tewfik, Suez.

PATRIOTIC HOCKEY MATCH

The devotees of hockey, and they are legion here, will be in a position to enjoy one of the best games ever played here on next Thursday night at the Prince's Rink.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

E. M. Jackman, Esq., to-day celebrated his 48th anniversary of his birthday. Mr. Jackman was born here in Feb. 29th, 1868, and is a man of whom Newfoundlanders may be proud.

Mount Cashel Annual Concert

The annual concert in aid of Mount Cashel to be given in the Casino tomorrow evening promises to surpass anything which has yet been done in this connection.

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OFFICIAL BRITISH

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Friday's desperate fighting has been resumed, and continues at Verdun, with the net result that the enemy made progress from the north, capturing Fort Douaumont. The French now encircle the enemy force in the fort. The slopes, east and west, are covered with German corpses. Talon Hill is rendered untenable, by either side, by artillery fire. The French hold Peivre Hill, Handromont Farm, and Douaumont village, having repulsed violent attacks against each.

FRENCH

PARIS, Feb. 28.—In Belgium our batteries bombarded German works facing Streustrate.

RUSSIAN

GENERAL LUKINS' COLUMN has routed hostile Bedouin forces in Western Egypt.

GERMANS

YESTERDAY, towards the close of the evening, the Germans tried several attacks to capture the village of Douaumont. Their assaults were shattered by the resistance of our troops, which did not give way under the most furious assaults. At Douaumont Fort the situation remains the same. This fort is tightly surrounded by our troops. Fighting is decreasing on the heights of Vaux Village.

AUSTRIAN

BERLIN, Feb. 28.—An official Austrian statement issued to-day says that by the capture of the Albanian port of Durazzo, the Austrians took 23 cannon, including six coast defence guns, ten thousand rifles, and a large amount of artillery, ammunition and provisions.

BIBLE CLASS "AT HOME"

Tomorrow Wednesday evening the members of George Street Bible Class will hold their annual "At Home" in the Presbyterian Hall. The concert will start at 8 o'clock and games and teas will be features as well as a "Jumbled Word Prizes Contest." It should draw a crowded house.

DECLARED 10 PER CENT

The annual meeting of the F. B. Wood Co. was held to-day at the offices, Brien Street. A dividend of 10 per cent was declared and a substantial sum was placed in reserve.