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PEACE CONFERENCE A GERMAN TRAP

Recess of Ten Days Taken and Invitation Issued to Allied Embassies. American and British Opinion is that Conference is a Sham.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
PETROGRAD, Dec. 28.—The Central Powers delegates to the Peace Conference at Brest Litovsk have agreed to a ten days recess. They will resume on January 4th, the place not yet determined. Trotsky is reported drafting a new note to the Entente Allied Embassies asking them to participate in a peace conference.

U.S. OPINION IS THAT GERMANY IS BLUFFING

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Consensus of editorial opinion here on the peace proposals of the Central powers is that they are merely cautionary. Many do not believe in good faith and would not have been made were there any chance of them being accepted.

GERMANY WANTS GENERAL PEACE

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Daily Express says that two things are known here. That Germany does not want a separate peace with Russia, but a general peace, and that Germany fears Bolshevik influence being afraid of its effects on the German working classes.

BRITISH ARMY TAKES TOWNS IN PALESTINE

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Further progress by the forces of General Allenby at two points in Palestine was reported in a statement issued last night by the war office. The statement reads:

"General Allenby reports that at midnight of December 20-21 our troops crossing the Nahr El Au (four miles north of Jaffa, on the Mediterranean) on rafts and light bridges seized Khirbat Hadrah, Sheik Muniss, Teer Rokket and El Nakhras. These localities are near the mouth of the river and include commanding ground three miles north of it. They captured 305 prisoners, eleven of whom were officers and ten machine guns.

"Other forces operating in the area took two miles northeast of Bethany, taking thirty prisoners, two machine guns and boating off three counter-attacks.

"General Allenby also reported the commencement of operations: Ninety-nine guns and howitzers with cartridges about 400 limbers, warrens and other vehicles, 110 machine guns, more than 2,000 rifles, 15,000 rounds of small arm ammunition and more than 58,000 rounds of gun and howitzer ammunition, besides various other stores."

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

COMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

*Horse races will be held on Clyde River ice on New Year's Day. Races to start at 2 o'clock sharp. 1943.

*The Annual Meeting of the Cornwall Farmers' Institute will be held in Cornwall Hall on Dec. 31st at 7 p. m. Geo. McDonald, Sec. 1942.

*NOTICE. Unpaid City Taxes must be paid before the 31st December 1917. After that date they will be advertised. 1890-12-25M51.

*CITY TAX-PAYERS—All taxpayers who miss paying their City Taxes for the year 1917, will be deprived of their votes in Civic Election February next. 1920-12-28M51.

*The Christmas Tree and entertainment of the Presbyterian church, New Dominion will be held in Afton Hall, Jan. 2nd, at 7:30 o'clock. Admission 15 and 10 cts. If night unfavourable will be held on following Friday. By order of Committee.

*A meeting of the Springfield and Fredericton Farmers Institute, will be held in the Springfield Temperance Hall on Saturday Dec. 29th, at 7:30 p. m. A full attendance is requested. Walter McKenzie, Secretary.

Minard's Liniment cures Neuralgia.

IMPORTANT NOTICE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA VICTORY LOAN

The Bank of Nova Scotia announces, that through the courtesy of the Eastern Trust Company, all "Victory" War Loan, subscribed through the Charlottetown Branch of that Bank, will be handled by members of its Staff, under the direction of Mr. W.H.V. Dunbar, at the office of the Eastern Trust Company, Charlottetown. This arrangement has been made to facilitate the prompt despatch of business, and enable the Bank to look after the needs of its clients promptly and efficiently, through preventing overcrowding on Jan. 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th, in its banking office, Charlottetown. 1923-M51.

DARING ATTEMPT TO ROB A BANK

Theives Captured by Constable and Clue Discovered to Other Robberies.

HAMILTON, Dec. 28.—A daring attempt to rob the Royal Bank at Dundas was frustrated shortly before midnight last night by Constable Lumsden, who disturbed three men in the act of breaking in. The trio fled towards a waiting automobile when the officer appeared. Lumsden followed them to it and arrested a man who gave the name of William MacFarland. Hamilton, Lumsden handcuffed the man to the seat of the car, sped to Chief Clark's house for assistance and then succeeded in rounding up the three men. They gave their names as William Grace, George Smith and Roy Hortrum, all of Hamilton. Earlier in the evening Cohen's clothing store and Diamond's harness shop were robbed. The police say the stolen goods were found in the automobile.

The Tuscarora Believed Lost With All Hands

All hope of the safety of the Tuscarora, whose boats as previously announced in the Guardian were picked up off St. Paul's Island, C. B., has been abandoned and it is believed she went to the bottom in the storm which arose last night. The George Orr, a schooner, was in the vicinity. The Tuscarora and the George Orr were lake steamers owned in the United States. They were both requisitioned by the United States government for the Atlantic trade and were brought down to the St. Lawrence to be put into the service. Both ships were cut in two in order to get them through the Welland canal and were reunited in Montreal. The George Orr, as previously stated went ashore at Savage Harbour and her crew landed safely. The Tuscarora was last heard from as she passed Father Point in the St. Lawrence on September 7th. Some days ago two of her boats were picked up off St. Paul's Island. Since then no trace of her has been found. She carried a crew of 35 men, most of them from the Eastern States. She was a ship of 2,386 tons and was built 27 years ago.

WOMAN MURDERED AT SALMON CREEK HUSBAND ARRESTED

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 27.—With the head cruelly mutilated and battered almost beyond recognition the lifeless body of Mrs. Robert Kierstead was found lying in a pool of warm blood on the kitchen floor of her home at Salmon Creek on Saturday at midnight. Around the gruesome sight were her five children as paralyzed by fright and bewilderment that they were unable to cry. Mrs. Kierstead, it is charged, was brutally murdered by her husband, who used as a weapon a stout uply and exceptionally large piece of cold steel. Clinging to the gory weapon when picked up by Mr. Thompson of Coags were a number of human hairs, these of his wife.

The dreadful crime was discovered by Dr. Kennedy and Mr. Thompson of Coags, who in reply to a telephone message from C. Smith of Annabdale went to the house.

Robert Kierstead, the alleged murderer of his wife, was arrested yesterday morning at Annabdale station, near the Kings county line, and is now lodged in jail.

Although it is not known, it is the general belief that the crime was committed between the hours of nine and eleven on Saturday night. The only motive thus far advanced by residents living near the scene of the murder is insanity. Kierstead had been a heavy drinker since taking up his residence at Salmon Creek, and it is thought that he was apparently under the influence of an inferior and poisonous liquor and in a crazed condition when he took the life of his wife with whom he has been living about fifteen years.

The weather. TEMPERATURE TIDE, MOON, ETC.

TODAY IS THE 124th DAY OF CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR.

TRINITY, Dec. 29.—Northwest gales, clearing and becoming very cold again.

The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 25 degrees above. At 10 a. m. it was 25 above at 9 p. m. it was 12 above. The lowest the previous night was 5 above.

The tide will be high this morning at 11:58, tomorrow at 12:29 and Monday at 1:15; it will be high tonight at 10:59, tomorrow at 11:49 and Monday at 12.

The sun sets this afternoon at 4:44, tomorrow at 4:45 and Monday at 4:46. It rises tomorrow morning, Monday and Tuesday at 7:56.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS

SPEAKERSHIP MAY BE PERMANENT

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—Hon. E. N. Rhodes will likely continue in the speakership when House meets and it is expected the soldiers vote will elect him to the Commons. The question of making the speakership a permanent office is likely to come up under the Union Government.

UNITED STATES CLEARANCES INCREASING

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Clearances of American merchantmen from this country in overseas trade increased over 1,500,000 tons during the ten months of 1917 as compared with same period last year. There was a decrease in total clearances.

WINNIPEG APPOINTS UNIONIST COMMITTEE

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
WINNIPEG, Dec. 28.—Union Leaders here last night appointed a permanent committee for the permanent establishment of a Union party in Winnipeg.

GERMAN PRE-WAR AIMS ADMITTED

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Cologne Gazette frankly confesses that Germany has for years aimed at creation of a German wedge dividing Africa from sea to sea.

EXEMPTION REFUSED ON LEGAL GROUNDS

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
TORONTO, Dec. 28.—Because four of his brothers are serving in the Imperial Army and not in the Canadian Army, Harold Hamblin was refused exemption on appeal by Sir William Mulock. Mother lives in England.

PRESIDENT CELEBRATES 61st BIRTHDAY

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—President Wilson today is celebrating his sixty-first birthday.

OLEOMARGARINE NOT ECONOMIC AT PRESENT PRICES

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—The City Council is asking the Food Control Board to fix a price for Oleomargarine declaring that at 37 cents it fails to reduce living cost.

FIFTY PER CENT OF EXEMPTION APPEALS THROWN OUT

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—Fifty per cent of the appeals heard by Judge McTavish were thrown out and the decision of the Tribunals to draft the men upheld. Twenty-five cases were heard, 7 of these who were refused exemption were young farmers. In some appeals it has been brought out young men on a farm where one would suffice. In such cases as these one man is taken.

Five Norwegian Steamers Sunk

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
LONDON, Dec. 28.—Thirty Norwegian sailors are believed killed in the sinking of five Norwegian steamers by German submarines.

German Cruiser Off Brazil?

(Canadian Press Despatch.)
BRITENON ABERG, Dec. 28.—Brazilian newspapers received here are filled with accounts of the movements of a German Cruiser off the Brazilian Coast a few weeks ago. It is believed that she brought supplies for a submarine base.

Election Of Officers A.F. & A.M.

Thursday night was St. John's night and as such was duly honored by Masons throughout the world. Included in the business for the evening before the local lodges was the election of officers, which resulted as follows:

ST. JOHN'S LODGE.
Worshipful Master—Harry Winchester.
Senior Warden—A. W. Hyndman.
Junior Warden—Arthur E. Tomlins.
Secretary—J. M. Murley.
Treasurer—D. A. MacKinnon.
Chaplain—Rev. Dr. T. P. Fullerton.
Senior Deacon—D. Edgar Shaw.
Junior Deacon—Laurie McDonald.
Senior Steward—Lester Douglas.
Junior Steward—J. N. MacBride.
Marshall—A. J. McLaine.
Inner Guard—W.F.H. Carvell.
Tyler—W. P. Doull.
Trustee—Alex. Horne.

VICTORIA LODGE.
Worshipful Master—W. J. Drake.
Senior Warden—Dr. A. B. Reid.
Junior Warden—H. M. Chandler.
Secretary—H. S. MacLeod.
Treasurer—Samuel Lowe.
Chaplain—E. T. Carboant.
Senior Deacon—E. A. Foster.
Junior Deacon—H. M. VanBuskirk.
Senior Steward—M. T. Stems.
Junior Steward—O. C. Craswell.
Marshall—Sydney Grey.
Tyler—W. P. Doull.
Trustee—John MacNavin.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diptheria.

CHRISTMAS AT FRONT ENJOYED BY SOLDIERS

Canadians Enjoyed Turkey Dinner and Christmas Presents From Home.

CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, via LONDON, Dec. 28.—(By W. A. Willison, Special Correspondent of the Canadian Press)—Christmas has come and gone. The front line was quiet Christmas day, which was wet and stormy. There was rain in the morning, turning to a snowstorm in the evening, and it was clear and cold at night. Behind the firing line the officers and men celebrated the day in wooden Armstrong huts or iron Nissen dwellings, in the basements of shattered French houses or deep dugouts won back from the enemy. They paused in the midst of a happy banquet in the middle of the old customs and remember old associations. The spirit of the day was the old Christmas spirit, with the passage of all messages which found expression in the Christmas number of the famous "Listening Post."

"To our folks, whose dearest wish was that we should be with them at this festive Christmas time, just the old, old message, a merry Christmas and glad new year from the bottom of our hearts."

Stricken fighting men at the rest station in the green hills amidst the quiet surroundings of a quaint old chateau celebrated the season at a happy banquet in a great hut which was cool with evergreen, brightened with innumerable red, white and blue and green streamers, lightened by many Red Cross lamps and Chinese lanterns, and warmed by two big stoves. Men of all the services were there—veterans of many fights, new men who had only arrived in time to help in the story that was Paschenende and move on to the fighting ground of the present. There were maple leaves to decorate the walls and many flags to add to the cheerfulness of the room and a real Christmas tree, gleaming under a load of presents from home.

The men who sat down at the banquet were dressed in the uniforms of their respective services, or in hospital blue or pyjamas supplied by the Red Cross. They had the celebrations just as the wounded in the casualty stations or field ambulances had theirs.

The C.A.M.C. strained itself to make the day a bright one for the wounded, and the Canadian Red Cross supplied them with special delicacies, games and toys. The Y.M.C.A. and Chaplains vied with one another in helping all to have a good time.

However the men were present in large numbers, there were no parties or moving picture shows. At more than one place the Canadians had special Christmas trees for the children of the neighborhood, and at all the large entertainments, France was represented by mothers, fathers or youngsters.

It was altogether as happy a day as the war conditions would permit. No man, as far as I can learn, went without his turkey or his Christmas pudding.

CONDENSED SPECIALS

In this column adverts are inserted at two cents per word net.

BOY WANTED—FOR STORE, ONE from the country preferred. Address S. T. L. Guardian. 1848-12-29M31.

WANTED—IMMEDIATELY A maid for general housework, apply 233 Queen. 1917-12-28M31

WANTED OFFICE BOY, APPLY Guardian Office. 1515-12-41C.

WANTED—TO PURCHASE TWO newly calved cows, Grant & Kennedy, City. 1918-12-28M31

LOST—DEC. 18, BETWEEN CORNWALL and North River a watch. Finder notify S. H. Colwell, New Haven. 1919-12-29M31.

LOST—ON WEDNESDAY 26th BY St. Dunstan's College, a can of gasoline oil, finder please leave at Joseph Doiron. 1915-12-28M21.

TEACHER WANTED FOR WEST Royal School, Male preferred. Apply E. Francis Bowen, Sec. R. R. No. 7, Charlottetown. 1929-12-29M61.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS—OLD AND new. The Merchant's Casualty Co., 164 Queen St. Open evenings 7 to 9. H. R. Gardner, Manager. Phone 195. Box 172. 1850

WANTED—SALESMAN, FULL OR spare time, to handle a high grade seller for a wealthy and well-known Co. Splendid income assured to steady, reliable men. Apply H. R. Gardner, Merchant's Casualty Co., 164 Queen St., Charlottetown. Phone 195-Y; Box 172. 1849

LOST—HANDBAG CONTAINING two small pocket books and some money, near Market Square. Finder, please leave at Smith Hotel, Grafton St., or Mrs. A. C. Duffett, West Royalty. 1938-12-29M21.

LOST—CHRISTMAS DAY ON WESTERN train or between Station and Upper Prince St. a gold watch. Finder, please leave at Mrs. MacLennan, 231 Prince St. 1940-12-29M31

STRAYED—ON MY PREMISES ONE sheep and lamb since last September. Owner can have same by proving property and paying for ad. If not claimed will be sold Jan. 15th. Alex. McLeod, Oceanview. 187-12-24M61.

RED CROSS BANDAGES POISONED BY HUNS

Plot to Spread Wholesale Murder Among United States Troops, 300 Surgical Dressings Infected.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, Dec. 28.—A plot to poison Red Cross bandages and spread wholesale death among the soldiers of America and her allies has been exposed and frustrated here. Revelations of the conspiracy were made today when it became known the department of justice agents were hunting the perpetrators of the deed. Three thousand four hundred surgical dressings, rolled by patriotic workers in Toledo, were infected with a mysterious greenish poison, while in transit between Toledo and Cleveland.

Immediately every one of the 3,400 bandages were burned. They were destroyed secretly in the rear of the Red Cross warehouse here.

Every effort was made to keep the matter secret but it was successful until today. Officials of the lake division of the Red Cross refused to discuss the poisoned bandages, but the authoritative information was obtained that the bandages had been destroyed and that government agents, aided by only slender clues were trying to solve the mystery.

The poisoned bandages were part of the periodical shipments received at the local headquarters of the lake division from Red Cross headquarters in other cities in the division, which comprises Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

The box of dressings arrived here from the Toledo chapter last week and were taken to the warehouse. While women were examining the large quantity of surgical dressings as to specifications a dark greenish substance was noticed on one of them. Investigation showed that all of the bandages in the box had been treated with poison.

HARKINS PLAYERS AGAIN GREETED WITH FULL HOUSE

Rolling Stones, a Sparkling Comedy, Splendidly Staged and Thoroughly Enjoyed by a Crowded House. Last Performance of Season Tonight.

Another crowded house enjoyed the roughly enjoyed and many expressions of appreciation were heard at their four act comedy, "Rolling Stones." This comedy, to which "Passing of the Third Floor Back" will be put on. This play combines the serious and the comic of all that had been promised in the play of clean, clever comedy, the whole performance being greeted with a continuous stream of laughter during the volume from a ripple to a roar. The leading characters who had delighted previous audiences took themselves capable of handling a drama with the best of them.

This will be the closing performance and is expected to be the last of the season and will be the last performance of the season. Miss Marie Davis as Norma Noggis; Miss Lillian Worth as Emma Braden; Miss Dorothy Chesmond as Anna Anderson; Miss Eugenie Du Bois as Mrs. Braunigan took their parts admirably and were ably supported by Messrs. Joseph Schuman, Erville Johnson, Joseph Mann, Charles Newsome, Joseph Andrews, W. Francis Clark, and Paul Scott.

The whole performance was thoroughly enjoyed and many expressions of appreciation were heard at their four act comedy, "Rolling Stones." This comedy, to which "Passing of the Third Floor Back" will be put on. This play combines the serious and the comic of all that had been promised in the play of clean, clever comedy, the whole performance being greeted with a continuous stream of laughter during the volume from a ripple to a roar. The leading characters who had delighted previous audiences took themselves capable of handling a drama with the best of them.

Christmas Greetings To Can. Red Cross

December 18, were supplemented to day by a despatch from Consul-General at Ray, who said one was hurt, but little damage was done as the building was empty.

Li. Col. S. R. Jenkins, M. D., received the following telegraphic Christmas greetings for the Red Cross: "Christmas greetings and best wishes for New Year from the Executive to officers, members and workers. NOEL MARSHALL."

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO VICTORY LOAN SUBSCRIBERS

VICTORY WAR LOAN—2ND PAYMENT
To meet the rush in connection with the 2nd payment of the Victory War Loan, the chartered Banks of Charlottetown have fixed January 2nd and 3rd as the dates for attending to customers from Charlottetown and Royalty, and January 4th and 5th for all out-of-town customers.

The observance of this request will be greatly appreciated by the Banks and will assist in relieving the congestion, which would naturally result from any attempt to take care of all subscriptions on January 2nd.

Receipts must be surrendered to the Banks when the January payment is being made. In cases where these are forwarded by mail, subscribers should enclose 8 cents to cover postage and registration charges.