

# NAVAL RECRUITING MEETING LAST NIGHT

## Excellent Meeting Addressed by Commander C. White, Lieut. Chorly and Others. Three Recruits Signed on, Others Coming.

In the People's Theatre last evening Commander C. White, R. N. C. V., R., and Lieut. C. C. Chorley, R. N., who have been touring the provinces in the interests of the Navy addressed the first Naval recruiting meeting to be held in Charlottetown. There was a good attendance considering the very unfavourable state of the weather and three recruits were signed on.

On the platform besides the Officers, were Mr. A. A. McLean, M. P., who very ably presided, Rev. Major Fullerton, Rev. Canon Simpson, Rev. R. G. Fulton and Rev. F. J. J. Macdonald.

The Chairman in opening the meeting spoke on the National Service, pointing out that Canada was doing her utmost to carry out Lloyd George's idea.

Professor Hinton then rendered an excellent solo and was followed by Rev. Father John J. MacDonald, who gave a very fine address on the Patriotic Fund and introduced the Naval speakers, Commander White and Lieut. Chorley.

Commander White said he had been here in 1894 as a midshipman and later on as an officer in one of His Majesty's ships. He had very kindly recollections of the province and its capital city, in common with many other officers who, while on the North American station, had visited this harbour. They felt justified he said in coming here for recruits, as in a sea-girt province of this kind the sea naturally entered the very blood and bone of the people. He went on to show that Canada had not been asked to give recruits to the Navy earlier in this war because, when the war broke out, the ships were well-manned and the depots well filled with reservists; but after conscription was passed in Britain there was no constituency from which to recruit for the Navy.

Canada's offer of 5,000 men for the Navy had not been asked for until the British authorities that more should not be offered to the Commander, but in order to bring the Naval recruit of Canada up to the standard of the Military recruit, the Canadian Government said they would pay these men \$1.10 per day, with \$20 separation allowance and the right to participate in the benefits of the Patriotic Fund on the same conditions as the soldier, with the difference that the seaman was only to be paid, while on duty on board ship, at the rate of 30 cents per day, the balance being either paid over to his dependants here in port, or deposited for him in the Government Savings Bank, so that when he returns after the war he will have a little capital on which to start again in civil life.

Commander White then made an eloquent and compelling appeal. On his calling for recruits one man immediately came forward.

Lieut. Chorley, who gave a splendid address, began by saying that he was not expected to be a speaker, but he

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# GENERAL VIEW OF SITUATION ON ALL BATTLEFRONTS

## Berlin and Petrograd Both Claim Successes in Dobrudja. Heavy Fighting Again on Western Front where Germans were Again Repulsed. British Capture Town in Egypt from the Turks.

(Special to the Guardian.) LONDON, Dec. 23—Except in northern Dobrudja where the troops of the Central Powers continue to drive the Russians and Rumanians towards Bessarabia, there has been little important action on any of the battle fronts. Russian troops in Dobrudja, Petrograd announces, were forced to retire northward under heavy attacks from numerically superior hostile forces.

(Special to the Guardian.) BERLIN, Dec. 23—The Teutonic army in Dobrudja continues to advance successfully, and announces the capture of Russian soldiers. East of Lake Babadagh, a Russian regiment, Petrograd records, drove a force of Bulgarians into Lake Ithone, a great many Bulgarians were drowned and 115 were made prisoners.

Artillery bombardment continues at various points on the eastern front. Berlin reports increased activity in the Somme sector, on the east bank of the Meuse, and in the Verdun region, the scene of the latest French advance.

In Galicia near the Ziochhoff Tarnopol railway there has been a spirited engagement. Berlin reports the breaking of an advanced Russian line north west of Valost, while Petrograd says the Austro-Germans were compelled to retire after occupying some trenches.

Some fighting has taken place in the Trots Valley on the Moldavian frontier, along the Bylstritzia River in the Carpathians. Elarich 90 miles east of the Suez Canal in Egypt has been captured by British troops. The town had been occupied for two years by the Turks who had built strong entrenchments around it. The defenders fled from Elarich on the approach of the British army.

(Special to the Guardian.) LONDON, Dec. 23—An official communication issued by the War Office tonight reads: Last night, Thursday, the enemy bombarded our front on the south bank of the Ancre. We re-

pulsed an attempted raid opposite Hohenzollern redoubt. During the day, Friday, considerable artillery activity prevailed at Ypres, Messines, Arras, North of the Ancre our artillery dispersed some enemy parties. Between the Ancre and the Somme our front shelled intermittently at various points. Yesterday during a few bright intervals our aeroplanes co-operated successfully with our artillery. One of our machines is missing.

### SUCCESSFUL RAIDS BY BRITISH.

LONDON, Dec. 22—The British war report says that a strong enemy party attacked opposite Lens last night. Only a few succeeded in reaching the trenches and they were promptly ejected. The British made a successful raid southwest of the Armentieres artillery activity between Somme and Ancre continues also in the neighborhood of Ypres. In the air fighting one German machine was destroyed and six damaged. Four British machines are missing.

## FOOD SCARCITY IN AUSTRIA

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—A Rome despatch the Sun says—Alarming news of food scarcity in Austria-Hungary practically amounting to a famine has reached the Vatican from diplomatic sources.

## SUDDEN DEATH OF POSTMASTER HACKETT

The startling news was telephoned to the Guardian shortly after midnight this morning that Mr. Edward Hackett, Postmaster of Charlottetown, had died suddenly at his home. No sickness had preceded this sudden call. Mr. Hackett being in his usual health almost up to the minute of his passing away. Further particulars, impossible to give in the time at disposal, will be given in next issue.

## RESULT OF THURSDAY'S RECRUITING MEETINGS

As announced in The Guardian yesterday fourteen recruits were secured at the series of meetings in King's County on Thursday night.

ST. MARGARETS.—At the St. Margaret's meeting Rev. Father K. C. McPherson presided. The other speakers were Col. Jenkins, and Rev. Father J. J. Macdonald. Four recruits were secured, Jerome Ernest Wilson for the navy, George Brown and W. Chester Sheppard for the Artillery and Francis Peters for the 105th.

MONTICELLO.—Rev. F. H. Littlejohns presided at the meeting here. He spoke for the Patriotic Fund, Mr. James Paton, M. L. A., spoke for the army and Mr. G. H. Holbrook for the navy. The programme also included solos by Miss Earle, Miss Hunter and Miss Margaret Roberts, and a clog dance by one of the boys in khaki. Three recruits were secured, Messrs. Daniel Macdonald, Wilfrid Macdonald and John McIsaac.

MORELL.—Col. Moore presided. Owing to some misunderstanding the attendance was not large. The speakers were Col. Moore, Hon. H. D. McEwen, Commander White, R. N. C. V., D. Sterns, Lieut. White and Sergt. Colpitts. Music was furnished by Misses Katie Stanley, and Marie Ross and Gunner Dawson. Four recruits were secured, Messrs. Patrick Jay, James Blanchard and Barry Gerald, for home defence, and Peter Hughes for the 105th.

KINGSBORO.—Rev. R. G. Fulton presided. He spoke for the Patriotic Fund, and the other speakers were Ex-Governor McKinnon for the navy and Mr. Walter Beer for the army. A musical programme was rendered by Pro. Hinton, Miss Robertson and Miss Gillespie. Two recruits were secured, Kennedy and Yates, whilst two more will go on the draft at St. John's.

ROLO BAY.—Rev. Dr. Fullerton presided. He spoke on behalf of the Patriotic Fund. The other speakers were Senator McLean, Rev. Dr. Walker and Private Lockerbie. An excellent musical programme was rendered by local talent. One recruit was secured. More are expected.

ST. COLUMBA.—Rev. Father Bernard Gillis presided. The other speakers were Judge Stewart, on behalf of the Patriotic Fund, Mr. Arthur McKenzie for the Navy, Mr. L. Macdonald, Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan and Lieut. E. H. Strong, on behalf of the army. There were no recruits, but it is hoped that the recruiting seed sown at the meeting will bear fruit.

BEAR RIVERS.—There were only nine persons present at the Bear River meeting in addition to Captain Campbell, A. A. McLean, M. P., and Rev. F. W. Sawdon, the speakers of the evening. There was some misunderstanding about the meeting, hence the small attendance. There were no recruits. The meeting advertised at Mt. Stewart did not take place as the hall was used for a Red Cross meeting.

## PRaises WORK OF SIR MAX AITKEN

(Canadian Press Despatch.) LONDON, Dec. 20.—Sir Max Aitken's friends think he is glad to leave the House of Commons where, despite his talents, he never made a place for himself; in fact, he rarely opened his mouth there.

The press generally comments on the meteoric career of the Canadian and his determined will which enabled him to push off wherever he desired.

The Montreal Gazette correspondent understands that his latest achievement was to firmly establish friendly and harmonious relations between Lloyd-George and Bonar Law. For some weeks back Sir Max occupied the suite next to that of Lloyd-George at the war office and in the evenings he was usually in the company of Bonar Law.

It is likely that the new peer will assume the name of Brunswick in honor of his native province. F. W. Sumner, agent-general of New Brunswick, expressed the opinion that Canada might yet utilize Sir Max Aitken's services as high commissioner, remarking that the new peer had gained more publicity for the Canadian army than any one here.

## THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 23.—Strong winds and gales mostly westerly and decreasing in force clearing and becoming a little colder.

The highest temperature yesterday was 37 degrees. At 9 a. m. it was 34 and at 9 p. m. 37. The coldest of the previous night was 32.

The tide will be high this morning at 8.43, tomorrow at 10.35, and Monday at 11.26; it will be high tonight at 8.33, tomorrow at 9.29, and Monday at 10.27.

The sun sets this afternoon at 4.19, tomorrow at 4.20 and Monday at 4.21; it rises tomorrow morning and Monday at 7.40, Tuesday at 7.41.

The moon sets this afternoon at 3.07 and tomorrow at 4.03. The last quarter of the moon was on Sunday, Dec. 17th, at 2.06 p. m. There will be a new moon on Sunday, Dec. 24th, at 4.31 p. m. The length of today and tomorrow will be eight hours and forty minutes.

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COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC. TWO CENTS per word each insertion for advertising in this column. Cash must accompany order.

## ANOTHER U. S. SHIP SUNK BY GERMANS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—The American Consul at Malta reports the British horse ship Ste. Ursula, bound for Saloniki for Montreal, with 6 Americans in the crew was sunk with her warning by a submarine on Dec. 18th. Four men are missing.

## TELL OF TERRORS OF CONSTANT SHELLING

Germans Say They Are Almost Insane from Everlasting C-rumming of Guns. Christmas Will Bring No Cessation of Hostilities This Year.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) LONDON, Dec. 20.—Thousands upon thousands of packages from "home" are pouring in for the soldiers of the British Empire, fighting in France, as harbingers of Christmas but the usually glad season of "Peace on earth, good will to men" will bring no cessation of hostilities this year and Christmas Day promises to go down in history as just another twenty-four hours of ceaseless shelling and war activity all along the line.

Through rain, fog, and darkness by day and by night, the British guns ceaselessly pounded the German trenches. Prisoners recently captured said that the effect of the everlasting drumming of the guns almost drove them insane. Captured letters written from the trenches also speak of the terrors of the constant shelling. "Death is far better than this," wrote one private to his wife.

## STORY OF MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN

WESTMINSTER, Dec. 20.—In the House of Commons Mr. Austen Chamberlain gave an interesting story of a German mission to Afghanistan, arranged in the spring of 1915 consisting of a young Indian anarchist in Berlin who was a landowner from Oudh and who posed as a ruling chief, being received as such by the German Emperor. He was accompanied by German officers, some Turks, and one other Indian anarchist, a Mohammedan.

Lieut. von Hentig, chief German officer, carried a letter from the German Chancellor to the Amir inviting the latter to advise the pretended Rajah how best India might be liberated from British tyranny. The mission was arrested on entering Afghanistan in the late summer and conveyed to Kabul towards the end of 1915. The Amir and his people quickly appraised these German and Indian adventurers at their true value.

The intervention of Turkey under German influence created complications and placed the Amir in an exceedingly difficult position. But at the outbreak of the war he gave the Viceroy the most solemn assurance of his intention to preserve neutrality and Mr. Chamberlain acknowledged with great satisfaction on behalf of the British government the Amir's loyalty to his pledged word, as sacred to true Mohammedans as to themselves.

His Majesty had firmly refused the inducement held out to him to forsake his ally and had used his influence to prevent a disturbance on the frontier.

The Amir dismissed the mission in May last and some of its members were captured by the Russians and British after leaving Afghanistan. The estate of Indian landowners had been sequestered by the Indian government. Letters from the Chancellor were also addressed to the Indian ruling chiefs.

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# U.S. CABINET AWAITS WORD FROM GERMANY

## Regarding Killing of Americans on High Seas and Discusses Press Comment in England on President's Note Counselling Peace.

(Special to the Guardian.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—After the Cabinet meeting today, Secretary Lansing said full information concerning the sinking of the British liner Arabia was not at hand. The American government is anxiously awaiting word from Berlin regarding the British horse ship, Marina which admittedly was sunk without warning by a German submarine and which the state department has been convinced was not a transport. No course of action will be decided on until Germany has been heard from further.

Press comment in both England and Germany on the President's peace note was read with deepest interest by members of the Cabinet. The spokesman for the administration thought that the unfavorable impression made at first in England would be changed when the note was examined carefully.

Messages of congratulation to the President poured into the White House today in increasing volume. Almost maintained

without exception the senders interpreted the President's action as a peace move. Republican leader Mann referred to the note on the floor of the House today and heartily praised President Wilson's action. "With regard to partisanship," he said, "I believe the whole people of the country warmly congratulate and commend the President in every effort he has made or may make to restore peace in the world."

## BRITISH COMMENT ON U. S.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 22.—The Post says it is possible Wilson's efforts meant to draw from Germany concrete peace terms. A useful purpose would then have been served, but that the unfavorable impression made at first in England would be changed when the note was examined carefully.

# APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORTED TO HAVE CAUSED TROUBLE

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—It is stated at the railway department this morning that the chief cause of the trouble between Mr. John Stanfield, chief whip of the Conservative party and Hon. Frank Cochrane, minister of railways is over the appointment of an assistant superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway at Halifax, with charge over the terminals. The local political organization of Colchester recommended Mr. McNutt, train despatcher at Truro, for the appointment, but Mr. F. P. Gutelius, superintendent of government railways appointed Mr. W. J. Matheson, formerly yardmaster at Niagara Falls, Ont.

The ability of Mr. McNutt to have handled such a position is questioned but it is stated that his promotion would come in due course. His experience, according to officials of the railway department at Ottawa, was not thought such as to fit him for

the post of assistant superintendent at Halifax. It is pointed out that the yardmaster's position of overseas business at Halifax last winter was a most serious and difficult problem, and it was decided that the new assistant superintendent should not in this instance be an office man, but an expert yardmaster.

It is declared that there was no one in sight on the I. C. R. with the practical qualifications necessary, and that this was no time to try out untried men, as might have been done in normal times. The railway department has undertaken to handle approximately 100,000 tons from Halifax and St. John during the present winter season. The Halifax yard, it is said, is now greatly enlarged, and the water front is a difficult one. Any failure to properly handle the yard end means delay, not thought such as to fit him for

# OVERLOOKED THE BRITISH EMPIRE'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Parliamentary observers who heard Premier Lloyd-George's speech agree that no platform, so ambitious, so far-reaching and so crowded with vital innovations has ever been proposed to the British nation by any previous Prime Minister in its history. Mr. Lloyd-George was guilty of one oversight, however. He had pronounced glowing eulogies of the

army and had almost finished his speech when Admiral Sir Hedworth Meux, who was seated in uniform a few rows behind the speaker, called out: "What about the navy?" The Premier was visibly embarrassed as he atoned for his neglect by a sketch of what the senior service had done in keeping open communications on the sea and remarking that the Germans had seldom given the British sailors, the luxury of a stand-up fight.

# ALLIES REFUSE TO CONSIDER GERMAN PEACE PROPOSALS

(Special to the Guardian.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A news agency despatch from Petrograd today says the Council of the Empire today declared unanimously in favor of a categorical refusal of the Allies to enter into peace negotiations with Germany.

(Special to the Guardian.) PARIS, Dec. 18.—Premier Briand announced in the Senate today that the Entente Allies would send tomorrow a concerted reply making it known to the Central Powers that it is impossible to take their request for peace seriously.

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