

## GERMANS RENEW DRIVES IN THE ARGONNE REGION

To Force French to Withdraw in Alsace.

### THEIR EFFORTS FAIL

TO MAKE ANY DISTINCT GAINS IS THE REPORT

Gen. Joffre Believes Allies Can Hold Germans in North and Is Driving Enemy From French Soil On Centre and Right.

Paris, Jan. 2.—Meagre reports from the battlefield to-day tell of renewed German drives against the French in the Argonne region and between the Moselle and the Meuse. Thousands of reinforcements have been brought up and a general offensive has been maintained for the purpose of forcing a withdrawal in Alsace, where the Germans are being strongly pressed. Despite their best efforts, the Germans have been unable to make any distinct gains, according to the latest reports.

Along the lines on the allied left wing, the artillery duels continue. The allies have failed in another attempt to take the German positions at Launoise, but in turn prevented the Germans from gaining any ground in a series of bitterly contested counter-attacks.

It is believed by military experts here that the present fighting along the line from the Argonne to the Vosges marks a second period in the present campaign. Convinced that the allied armies can hold the Germans everywhere in the north, Gen-

eral Joffre is believed to have initiated a driving movement, which has for its object the forcing of the enemy from French soil. His latest reserve armies, which have been sent to the front from the southern centres, have all been sent to the centre and right, leaving the veteran French corps and British and Belgians to hold Von Kluck in check on the left.

Gains By French. Paris, Jan. 2.—Mining operations by both sides have featured the operations on the battlefield during the last thirty six hours. The Germans operating with veteran sappers, sappers and engineers in the region between Beaumont and Achicourt. The French managed to demolish a line of German trenches at Villiers and in the forest of Sella.

It was admitted to-day that on New Year's eve the Germans attacked in force at numerous points along the battle line but the war of attrition that they were everywhere required. The violent artillery duel continues in the dunes at Neuport, at Montebach and in the regions of Arns, Albert and Revois. The French artillery has advanced the enemy along the Alsace as well as in the region of Rheims and material advantage has resulted.

By a series of bayonet charges, the French have been able to attain new advanced positions in the wooded region of Perthes and have regained part of the ground previously lost in the Argonne. Slow steady fighting with small gains are reported in the Woivre region. In Alsace, while the fighting continues with unabated ferocity at Steinbach, the French are slowly pushing down hill and now dominate the main road and most of the village.

## BOTTOM OF FORMIDABLE BLOWN OUT; 151 SAVED

London, Jan. 2.—No naval disaster of the war to date has so depressed Britain as the loss of the second line battleship Formidable.

It is reported that she was torpedoed by a German submarine. Naval experts are united in declaring that, while such losses must be expected, they again direct special attention to the submarine policy. There is much under-surface irritation and bitter criticism of the apparent uselessness of British submarines, and many of the critics ask why they have failed to guard vessels. The admiralty still withholds complete details of the disaster.

The latest reports received to-day show that 151 of the Formidable's crew have been accounted for. There is still slight hopes that others may be brought in by fishing boats, but this is very faint, as the warship was

torpedoed fore and aft, and practically her entire bottom was blown out. She sank in less than ten minutes.

The news in Paris. Paris, Jan. 2.—Announcement of the loss of the British battleship Formidable was made here to-day. The report indicates that she was torpedoed by a German submarine while off the nearby British naval base of Portsmouth, eighteen miles south-east of Southampton.

The survivors of the Formidable describe their arrest as miraculous. As soon as the vessel was struck they realized that it was doomed, and the signal was immediately given to launch the life boats and launches but the seas were so high that a few on board were smashed as they were put over the side. One cutter alone floated, the survivors say.

## TURN UP GHASTLY RELICS OF SLAIN SOLDIERS

London, Jan. 2.—In another lengthy review of the operations at the front, issued by the Press Bureau to-day, it is stated that for the last several weeks the extension and construction of new trenches has been the most pressing problem. Excavations have been made in all directions, until the entire front now presents a labyrinth of confused intersecting trenches resembling a huge gridiron.

The earth in vicinity is ploughed by shells, bombs and mines. Even when there is lull in actual fighting, troops are kept busy straightening out their trenches and improving the sanitary conditions.

Many times spades turn up ghastly relics in the form of bodies and parts of bodies of slain soldiers. The war office report says that some of the German prisoners taken have a gloomy view of the situation and blame their officers, but the majority are cheerful.

Three Thousand Frozen. London, Jan. 2.—The correspondent of The Daily Chronicle, telegraphs from Petrograd: "Forty Arabs brought into a hospital after having been found freezing by the Russians say they left Baghdad numbering 10,000 not knowing whether they were going, and unwilling to fight, having heard only of war having broken out between the Germans and the Russians. They had not received clothes to equip them for the journey, and six thousand had been frozen on the way."

Thomas Hanline, an employee at Macdonald College, walked into the elevator shaft, on the second floor of the building, fell to the basement and was killed. This was at St. Anne de Bellevue.

Portsmouth Council will hold its inaugural meeting on January 11th.

Presented With Chair. Canon Groat was presented with a very fine cathedral chair by the members of the Church Women's Aid of St. George's cathedral. The chair was put in its place and bears a suitable inscription. It is very pretty in appearance. Accompanying the gift was a letter from the Aid extending to Canon Groat the season's greetings.



BUILDING THE DANUBE. Pontons built by the Servians over the Danube to help them outflank the Austrians in their attack on Belgrade.

## A STORE WAS ROBBED

BURGLAR GOT AWAY WITH JEWELRY AND SKATES. Broke Into Second-Hand Store of L. Roubard, Corner of Princess and Clergy Streets.

A daring robbery was perpetrated at the second-hand store of L. Roubard, corner of Princess and Clergy streets, on Thursday night, by some unknown person, who managed to get away unscathed, taking with him two hundred dollars worth of booty. Mr. Roubard, the proprietor of the store, was at the time in Montreal. His wife, who resides in the house next door, did not hear any noise. Mr. Roubard stated that all the valuable jewelry which he had in the store and six pairs of skates were stolen. The boxes in which the skates were packed were placed back in their former positions, so that the loss would not be detected, but the contents of them were taken by the culprit.

Upon examination, it was discovered that the lock on the front door was broken. The police are working on the case and certain articles have been picked up that may lead to an arrest.

## THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE BRITISH ARMY

Six Armies to be Created by Absorption of Kitchener's Army Into Regular Army.

London, Jan. 2.—An army order issued last night announces that the present organization of the army will be further developed by the creation of six armies, each of which will consist generally of three army corps. The first army will be commanded by Lieut.-General Sir Douglas Haig, who headed the first army corps of the expeditionary force; the second by General Sir Horace L. Smith-Dorrien, the third by Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Hunter, the fourth by General Sir Ian Hamilton, the fifth by General Sir Leslie Brudenell, and the sixth by General Sir Bruce M. Hamilton.

Major-General Sir Charles C. Munro, Lieut.-General Sir Charles Ferguson and Lieut.-General Sir H. C. O. Plumer have been given command of the first, second and third army corps respectively.

This re-organization follows on the absorption of Lord Kitchener's army into the regular army.

Ottawa, Jan. 2.—In the lists of the first recipients of the new military cross decorations, appear the names of two Canadians. Second Lieutenant Charles Shergold, Royal Canadian Engineers, is a Toronto soldier. He was recently promoted from non-commissioned rank to a second lieutenant and was mentioned in General Sir John French's despatches for "coolness and bravery under fire."

Captain E. J. W. Spread, Royal North Lancashire regiment, is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston. He was promoted to his present rank after being mentioned in despatches. On Sept. 17th he was reported missing, but was later said to be wounded in a French hospital. He also wears the Carnegie medal for rescuing twenty women and children in the Iroquois theatre fire, Chicago in 1904. The military cross ranks next to the Victoria Cross.

## GERMANY IS PESSIMISTIC

Member of Reichstag Says the People Are Disappointed. Copenhagen, Jan. 2.—The growing pessimism in Germany is evident. The people are disappointed in the army's progress. A member of the Reichstag, of Belgian lineage, Konrad Hausmann, writing to the Berliner Tageblatt, says:

"Everywhere the people in public are endeavoring to keep cool and simulating optimism, but privately they invariably express surprise that favorable developments do not come sooner. "Sympathizers with the military party criticize the diplomats for not having secured for Germany more allies before the war. There is a strong undercurrent outside the Reichstag against the imperial chancellor, who is accused of having made every conceivable mistake." Scandinavian papers are surprised that the article should be allowed to be published, and they think the fact is highly significant.

## Lieut. Spread Wins Cross For Bravery



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## MAKE KINGSTON GROW

The industries which lie along the front of the city, from the Grand Trunk passenger station to West street, are suffering because they have no railway connections, and the marvel is that they have been so patient. The locomotive works have had one track, which has met their wants, inadequately. The Slater company have been drawing all the material they want from the nearest railway connection to their factory, at considerable expense. The shipbuilding company have been devising apparatus from time to time to unload their heavy iron at the freight station and transport it to their yard at a six per cent. of all its expenditures. The water department and the Selby company have put up with all sorts of inconveniences, because they could not help themselves. The Hadley Shaw flour mill, when in operation, suffered a serious handicap in not being able to ship direct by care from the mill.

Now there is a chance to give these industries the railway service they so much desire, at a nominal cost, so far as the city is concerned, and to it there should not be a dissenting voice. If any other place that wants to grow—and where the business men are enthusiastically at work planning and projecting every scheme that means a bigger city—the people would be of one mind upon this matter. Kingston cannot afford to be divided upon it.

## NEW YEAR'S AT Y.M.C.A.

VISITORS WERE TREATED TO REFRESHMENTS. A Rural Basketball Match in the Evening—Other Events During the Day.

New Year's Day always finds everything busy about the local Y.M.C.A. building. In the evening a social time was spent in which guests were entertained in a cordial manner. Some five or six of the ladies, who are always to be found on hand, in helping out on such occasions, were early refreshment table for the visitors.

The first amusing item upon the programme was a rural basketball match. All classes of people were represented in this game. Some two or three were dressed in cannibal fashion. For the time being they were also rather cannibal in nature and were more than a match for the opposing team. Not even the "wild west cowboy" portrayed by Herbert Holder, nor the cunning Japanese, by H. Edgar and G. Holland, could cope with these furious creatures, who needed to say, ran up a high score. Everyone who took part in this game was dressed in motley uniform. The line-up:

Cannibals and other primitives—Forwards, J. McLaughlin, E. Moncrieff, centre, H. Kennedy, defence, J. McCullagh, H. Holder. Modern and Japanese—Forwards, H. Edgar, W. Kelly, centre, W. Joyce; defence, G. Holland, F. Kincaid.

Uniforms were discarded later and other interesting games were played, such as "dodge-ball" and "pin-ball." Both of these amusements appealed strongly to the spectators. The foregoing was the splendid programme of the evening, but in the morning and afternoon other events were pulled off, including junior and beginners classes, competitions in swimming. In the afternoon the intermediates had an athletic meet trying out for standard efficiency tests. There were four events. The sixty-yard potato race, running high jump, three standing broad jumps. The boys all made a good showing and with a little training will have no difficulty in passing their tests. The senior and intermediate basketball teams of the Y.M.C.A. left on the 3:04 o'clock train Saturday afternoon for Belleville to play the same teams of this latter town. Last year Belleville won the championship.

## NEW YEAR'S HONORS FROM KING GEORGE

The Canadians Who Are on the List: One Member of Government.

London, Jan. 2.—The Canadians named in the king's New Year's honor list and the titles they now hold are:

Baronetcy—Sir Hamar Greenwood, M.P., for Sunderland, Eng. Knights Bachelor—Sir George Perley, Canadian acting high commissioner in London; Sir Clifford Sifton, K.C., Knight Bachelor—Sir Herbert Holt, president of the Royal Bank, Montreal; Sir Francis Lemieux, acting chief justice of superior court of Quebec; Sir William Price, Quebec city; Capt. Sir Clive Phillips Wolley, Victoria, B.C. Companion St. Michael and St. George—George J. J. Desbarats, deputy minister of marine, Ottawa; Surgeon Major General Eugene Fleet deputy minister of marine, Ottawa.

## RUSSIANS DRIVE WAY THROUGH CARPATHIANS

Much Nervousness in Vienna and Budapest.

### PEOPLE ARE FLEEING

TO BUDAPEST FROM THE THREATENED TERRITORY

What Vienna Thinks of Grand Duke Michael's Move To Force Germany To Withdraw Part of its Forces From Poland.

Vienna, Jan. 2.—There is now no doubt that the main Russian attack is being directed against Hungary. Instead of Germany or western Galicia.

Official despatches from the front say that the Russians in enormous force have driven away through the passes of the Carpathians, advancing in four columns near Myszkow, Skyl, Turka and Corlice. The vanguard of the invaders is the crack eighth Russian corps, and behind it is declared to be the first line Russian troops, apparently withdrawn from the Polish front.

There is much nervousness both here and in Budapest at the news, although military authorities say that everything possible is being undertaken to stop the drive. The officials are now convinced that unlike previous Russian raiding expeditions this one represents Grand Duke Nicholas' long cherished plan for the road invasion of Hungary.

Checked by Gen. Von Hindenburg in the north and with Karaway threatened, it is believed here that the Russian commander-in-chief has undertaken the present move in the expectation that it will force Germany to withdraw part of her forces from Poland to aid the Austro-Hungarian forces in withstanding the present assault. Many refugees from the threatened territory are reaching Budapest.

## BELIEVES HE STRUCK A GERMAN WARSHIP

British Flight Commander Francis Hewlett Says He Dropped Several Bombs.

London, Jan. 2.—The experiences of Flight-Commander Francis Hewlett, during the recent aerial raid on the German naval base at Cuxhaven, are described in an interview with the aviator transmitted to Reuter from Amsterdam. Commander Hewlett, who was believed to have lost his life until it was learned yesterday that he had been picked up by a steam trawler and landed at Ynuiden, Holland, says he believes that he hit a German warship with one bomb which he dropped. He said: "A formidable fire was directed at me and I replied with several bombs. It is my opinion that I hit one of the German vessels, because soon afterwards dense smoke arose from her."

War Tidings. A London Chronicle correspondent believes preparations are being made for a raid by Germany.

Wish Bay, on the south-west coast of Africa, was re-occupied Christmas day without opposition by a strong British force.

Theodore Roosevelt thinks Japan should not keep Tsing-Tau; both Tsing-Tau and the South Islands would be a fair means of bargaining for a more definite sphere of influence on China.

Death of Wallace Simes. Wallace Simes, aged fifty-two years, died at Lyndhurst on December 25th. He suffered from heart trouble and is survived by his wife, one son and one daughter, Dr. A. Simes, of Winnipeg, and Miss Myrtle Simes, school teacher. The funeral took place on December 31st from his late residence to the Methodist church at Lyndhurst, the remains being placed in the vault at Elgin.

Rev. Mr. Curtis, of Newboro, officiated. Deceased was a very highly respected resident of Lyndhurst. He was a Methodist, and a staunch liberal in politics.

## BRITISH DECORATION, "THE MILITARY CROSS"

Takes Precedence Over All Decorations and Medals With Exception of Victoria Cross.

London, Jan. 2.—King George has instituted a new decoration which is called "the military cross." The decoration is of silver and bears the Imperial crown on each arm and in the centre the letters "G.R." (George rex imperator.) Captains, commissioned officers of a lower grade or warrant officers in the army who distinguish themselves in time of war are eligible to "the military cross." It takes precedence over all decorations and medals, with the exception of the Victoria Cross. The Gazette contains the names of about one hundred persons on whom the new decoration has been conferred.

## QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S MESSAGE

To Women of Empire Who Mourn For Their Dead. London, Jan. 2.—Queen Mother Alexandra sends through "The Gentlewoman" the following New Year's message to the women of the empire, and especially those who are mourning the loss of loved ones in the war:

"I wish to apply to the women of the empire as this great crisis in our history a message of hope and consolation for the New Year. You have been through a period of great suffering by the loss of dear ones and many more serious will yet be demanded of you, but I feel that they will be borne with that patience and fortitude which have supported and sustained you throughout the last five terrible months. You have suffered in a great and just cause, and my earnest prayer is that in your sorrow you may be consoled by the thought that those who are near and dear to you have died like heroes for their king and country. May God pour his infinite blessings upon you in whatever calamities you are called upon to bear until the blessings of peace once more dawn upon us."

Drunks Given Chance. "This is the new year, so I will give you a chance to turn over a new leaf," remarked Magistrate Farrell, in the police court on Saturday morning to an able-bodied man who appeared for being drunk. He gave two others a chance.

Godwin for school trustee in Frontenac ward. "Buttermilk Cold Cream," at Gibson's.

DAILY MEMORANDUM. See top of page 2, right hand corner, or probabilities. Municipal election, polling 2 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday.

## THE DAILY BRITISH WHIG

Is on Sale at the Following City Stores:

Backell's News Depot, 235 King St. Clarke, J. W. & Co., 353 Princess College Book Store, 168 Princess Couler's Grocery, 208 Princess O'Brien's Grocery, Cor. Prince & Elgin Carovsky, T. B., 665-610 Princess Frontenac Hotel, 200 Ontario St. Gibson's Drug Store, Market Square Gibson's Grocery, 208 Princess McNeill's Book Store, 208 Princess McNeill's Cigar Store, Cor. Prince & King McLeod's Grocery, 151 Union St. W. Mulvihill's Drug Store, 250 University Mulvihill's Cigar Store, 76 Princess Prouse's Drug Store, 213 Princess Vealeau's Grocery, 202 Montreal

BORN. LAIPPEN—in Kingston, on Jan. 2nd, 1915, to Mr. J. W. Laippen, 115 Queen St., a daughter.

MARRIED. CARMAN-WERDEN—in Athol, on Dec. 25th, Raymond B. Carman to Gladys Werden, both of Athol.

MULLINS-HYATT—in Pictou, on Dec. 24th, Rev. Charles F. Mullins, P. L. S. S., Virginia, to Miss Jessie McDonald Hyatt, West Lake.

REBIRTH—in Pictou, on Dec. 23rd, Charles Elvin Reid, Milford, to Lena Reid, Hallowell.

ACKERMAN—in Pictou, Dec. 23rd, Rachel E. Wardell, relict of the late W. H. Ackerman, in her 17th year.

ERASH—in Kingston, Jan. 1st, 1915, Gilbert Erash, aged 39 years. Funeral private residence of Mrs. Erash, 238 Queen St., Monday, Jan. 4th, at 4:30 a.m.

HUTCHINGS—in Kingston, 90 Wm. St., on Jan. 2nd, 1915, Annie Hutchings, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Hutchings. Funeral at 2 o'clock Monday morning to St. Mary's cathedral, where a solemn requiem mass will be sung for the repose of her soul. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend.

SMACROW—Suddenly in Boston on January 1st, 1915, Jesse K. Smacrow, daughter of the late Judge and Mrs. Macrow, Kingston. Funeral notice later.

MERRICK—in General Hospital, Dec. 31st, 1914, John W. Merrick, son of the late Simon D. Merrick. Interment takes place at Merrickville, Jan. 2nd. Toronto papers please copy.

MCCORMICK—in Kingston on December 31st, 1914, Robert McCormick, eldest son of the late Armstrong McCormick, aged 85 years. Funeral from No. 1 Centre St. this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

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