

YEAR 88-NO. 301

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1916

LAST EDITION

WAR CONFERENCE IN FEBRUARY

Scope of Imperial Gathering to Which Dominions Are Invited. PEACE WILL BE DISCUSSED AS WELL AS PROBLEMS THAT WILL ARISE.

The Premiers to Be Temporarily Attached to the British War Council—Message to Governor-General. Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The Imperial Conference announced recently by Lloyd George is to be not an Imperial Conference in the ordinary sense, but a war conference.

"I wish to explain that what is contemplated by His Majesty's Government is not a session of the ordinary Imperial Conference, but a special war conference of the Empire. His Majesty's Government therefore invites your Prime Minister to attend a series of special and continuous meetings of the new War Cabinet in order to consider urgent questions affecting prosecution of the war, the possible conditions on which in agreement with our Allies we could assent to its termination, and the problems which will then immediately arise.

"Your Prime Minister for the purpose of these meetings, would be a member of the War Cabinet. "In view of the extreme urgency of the subjects for discussion, as well as of their supreme importance, it is hoped that your Prime Minister may find it possible in spite of serious inconvenience involved, to attend at an early date—not later than the end of February. While the presence of your Prime Minister himself is earnestly desired by His Majesty's Government, they hope that if he sees insuperable difficulties he will carefully consider the question of nominating a substitute, as they would regard it as a serious misfortune if any dominions were left unrepresented."

Parliament May Meet Earlier. The assembling of delegates to this War Conference will take place during the approaching session of Parliament, and the announcement to-day may indicate the Government to advance the date of the opening in order that the work of the session may be as far advanced as possible before the Prime Minister's departure. There is, of course, a possibility that the character of the session may make it impossible for Sir Robert Borden to leave at all.

LABOR'S VOICE AGAINST PEACE. Paris, Dec. 27.—In addresses at the National Congress of the French Socialist party, Arthur Henderson, the British Cabinet Minister, and C. H. Roberts, a member of the British Parliament, both affirmed, amid enthusiastic cheers, that the war must be fought out until full guarantees have been obtained for a lasting peace.

MET DEATH WHILE FLYING IN ENGLAND

Lieut. Don Brophy, of Ottawa, Meets a Sudden End on Christmas.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—A cable to members of the family announces the death, while flying in England Monday, of Lieut. Don Brophy, of this city and son of J. B. Brophy, of St. Peters, Que. He was attached to the Royal Flying Corps. Brophy, who was formerly a member of Ottawa Football Club, qualified in aviation at Toronto in October, 1915. He went to the front as a flier in March of this year and was recalled to England for home defence in November.

TORONTO INDUSTRIES THROWN INTO IDLENESS

By the Storm—The Electric Wires Were Broken Near Cooksville. (Special to the Whig.) Toronto, Dec. 27.—Many big munition plants and other large industries are idle here as the result of the storm, which fractured the wires near Cooksville, about 4 a.m., plunging the city into darkness, and the larger part of the city arose by candle light to-day.

The storm last night and this morning was general from Jacksonville, Florida, to Northern Ontario. Anxiety is great for shipping along the Atlantic coast.

TRUTON ADVANCE LOSES MOMENTUM

London, Dec. 27.—Petrograd despatches to the Times say: There are indications that: German advance northeast of Bucharest is losing momentum. Each day gained enables Russian reinforcements to come within striking distance, thus helping to hold the present line of the front. The advance is now northwest and southeast of Filippit, 30 miles from Braila.

LABOR WILL CO-OPERATE.

Assured That National Services Does Not Mean Conscription. Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The Dominion Trades Congress executive had a further conference with Premier Borden and R. B. Bennett, director-general of national service, yesterday. It is understood that the assurances that national service is not to be the forerunner of conscription were satisfactory to the labor delegation, and that it will co-operate in the movement.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Of International Situation Held at Premier's Residence. (Special to the Whig.) London, Dec. 27.—A ministerial conference of the international situation was held at Premier Lloyd George's official residence in Downing street to-day.

Foreign Secretary A. J. Balfour made his first appearance in conference since his recent indisposition.

PLURALITY OF 689,465

Was Secured by President Wilson Over Hughes. (Special to the Whig.) New York, Dec. 27.—Woodrow Wilson is President for four years more by virtue of a plurality over Charles Evans Hughes of 689,465 votes out of a total of 15,477,463 cast on November 7th. These figures as assembled to-day by the United Press are based largely by official counts of the States as certified to the Electoral College.

BASE HOSPITAL "SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE."



This photograph shows a base hospital in France of the type in which most wounded Canadians are treated before being sent to England. On the litters in the courtyard are lying German and French wounded, both badly in need of medical aid, and some even more in need of the services of a minister of their faith.

STOLE NICKEL FOR GERMANY

Seven French-Canadians Are Under Arrest At Quebec City.

SCRAP NICKEL WAS TAKEN

FROM THE DOMINION ARSENAL AT ANCIENT CAPITAL. Unearthing of Plot for Exportation Leading to Vigorous Military Enquiry—Others Are Under Suspicion. (Special to the Whig.) Quebec City, Dec. 27.—Seven French-Canadians have been arrested and others are under suspicion charged with stealing several tons of scrap-nickel from the Dominion arsenal and indirectly aiding the King's enemies.

IN A HOPELESS WAY.

A Japanese Steamer Is Aground Near to Chefoo. (Special to the Whig.) Tokio, Dec. 27.—The steamer Sankaku Maru is aground off Chefoo with its crew and passengers totalling 400. The position of the vessel to-day was said to be "hopeless." Two Americans are among the Sankaku's passengers.

\$100,000 to Church.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The Paris edition of the New York Herald says that Frank J. Gould has just given \$100,000 for rebuilding the British Protestant church at Malsons-Lafitte, where there is an important British-American colony, mostly interested in thoroughbred racing stables.

DENY RUSSIA'S RIGHT TO SECURE CONSTANTINOPLE

Cologne Gazette Says Germany Is Willing to Return Baltic Provinces.

Amsterdam, Dec. 27.—Prefacing an evidently inspired leading editorial with the statement that Germany does not desire to create a feeling of revenge in Russia, which would provoke another war, the Cologne Gazette declares that Germany intends to restore the Russian Baltic provinces, but that Russia must recognize that the new situation created in Poland cannot be changed. The paper argues that in taking Poland, Germany was really rendering a service to Russia, and that, deprived of Poland, Russia will form a united and homogeneous empire. Germany will never allow Russia to possess Constantinople, according to the paper, but is ready to negotiate with Turkey and Russia an arrangement permitting Russian warships and merchant men to navigate the straits.

"GAIN PARIS OR DIE"

This Is the German Drive Story Heard in Berlin. London, Dec. 27.—Persistent reports from Swiss sources are that the Germans are laying plans to make another drive on Paris, as soon as the weather permits. These reports may be fabrications, but they are so insistent as to cause interest. There appears to be no doubt that the "Gain Paris or Die" story is in circulation in Berlin. The fact that the existence of this sentiment has been permitted to slip through the German censors so often gives ground for the belief, current here, that the rumor is sent out by the Teutonic press department to cover a manoeuvre in another direction.

U-Boat Captain Sent to Switzerland.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Lieut. Crompton, commander of the German submarine U-41, has been exchanged and sent to Switzerland. He was one of the two survivors of the U-41, which was sunk by the British.

CALLING OF A CONFERENCE

To Consider With Dominion the Effective Prosecution of the War.

ROWELL ENDORSED PLAN

HIS ARGUMENTS GIVEN MANY MONTHS AGO. Mobilizing the Resources of the Whole Empire for the Life and Death Struggle—There Should be a Glad Response From All Parts of the Empire. (Special to the Whig.) Toronto, Dec. 27.—One of the promised acts of the Lloyd George government which, when it comes about will be of special interest to Canadians, will be the calling of the Imperial Conference. There have been a great many people in Canada who have never understood why the Imperial Conference has not been called long ago, so that representatives of the Dominions should consult together for the most effective prosecution of the war.

POOR WORLD CROP FOR THE PAST YEAR

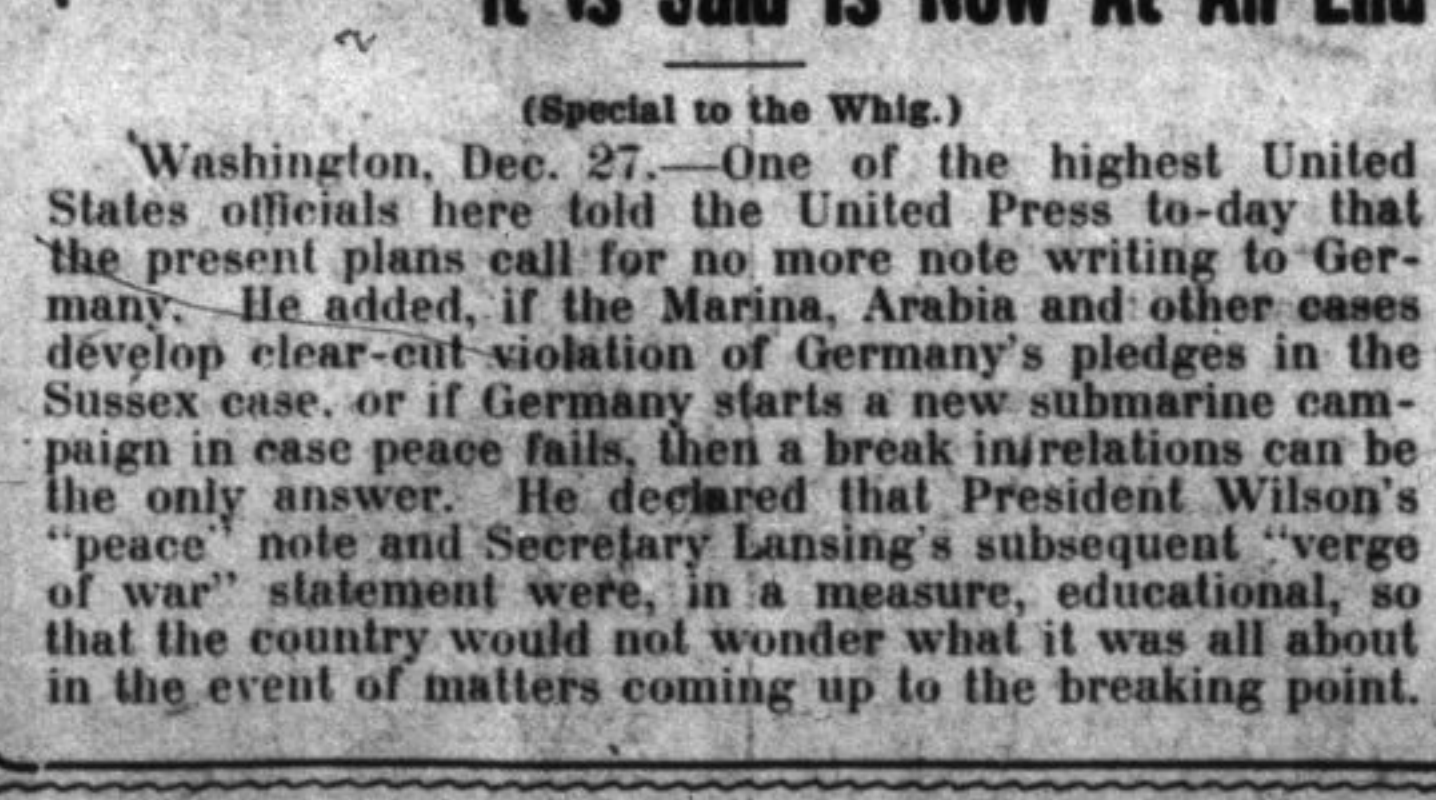
18 Important Countries Show Decreased Wheat Yield of 25 Per Cent. Rome, Dec. 27.—The International Institute of Agriculture harvest estimates continue to indicate the poor world crop. It is now able for the first time, through new reports just received, to forecast the wheat production of Argentina. The Argentine wheat crop is estimated at 70,000,000 bushels, one-half that of last year.

NEW YORK STOCKS.

The Prices Which Were Made on Stock Exchange. (Special to the Whig.) New York, Dec. 27.—Prices to-day were firm and in quite a few cases advances were reached.

NOTE WRITING TO GERMANY IT IS SAID IS NOW AT AN END

(Special to the Whig.) Washington, Dec. 27.—One of the highest United States officials here told the United Press to-day that the present plans call for no more note writing to Germany. He added, if the Marina, Arabia and other cases develop clear-cut violation of Germany's pledges in the Sussex case, or if Germany starts a new submarine campaign in case peace fails, then a break in relations can be the only answer. He declared that President Wilson's "peace" note and Secretary Lansing's subsequent "verge of war" statement were, in a measure, educational, so that the country would not wonder what it was all about in the event of matters coming up to the breaking point.



SCENE OF BRITISH ADVANCE TOWARDS PALESTINE Towards the right of the map is shown El Arish and Mahgdah, taken by the British together with 1,130 prisoners. Mahgdah is only a few miles from the border of Palestine and about 100 miles from Jerusalem.

EDITOR SHEFFINGTON'S WIDOW

Who has arrived in the United States to tell of the death of her husband, Sheehy Sheffington, who was shot while on trial in Dublin during the rebellion. Mrs. Sheffington escaped from Ireland under an assumed name and well-disguised. She purposes to visit Canadian cities if permitted to do so by the authorities.

BRITISH ACT AS SANTA CLAUS

In Ruined French Villages and Made the Children Happy.

DOLLS, TOYS AND CANDIES WERE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE DESTITUTE CHILDREN, Who Shrieked With Joy Over the Unexpected Gifts—Santa Claus Made His Appearance Through Trap Doors. With the British Armies in the Field, Dec. 26.—A bowling-wind and a driving rain ushered in the third Christmas of the war along the British front. The promise of a beautiful day in the starlit night of Christmas eve was not fulfilled. All day long scudding clouds flew before the wind until late in the afternoon, when it suddenly cleared. It grew overcast again before dark.

Christmas was a day of comparative quiet on the front. There was a good deal of artillery firing in certain sectors and trench mortar activity—the fire, as one Tommy punningly expressed it, "in order to make pieces on the earth."

Unheeded of the weather and the firing, the Tommies carried out their Christmas programme. There were lunches and dinners and suppers and masquerade parties, phonograph concerts, theatrical programmes and band music programmes—smokers and customs of that part of England and her colonies from which they came. Commanding officers, for the most part, attended the messes of their men, wishing them a happy Christmas and an early victory.

There was a real holiday spirit despite the war time, the "Tommies" especially taking particular delight in playing Santa Claus to children of the ruined villages. Their cheeks of joy over unexpected dolls and toys and candies resounded through the villages. In cities like Arras, where the remaining inhabitants live in the cellars, there was a splendid opportunity for Santa Claus to make his appearance through trap doors, since there were no chimneys.

War Tidings. Berlin reports a considerable increase in artillery fire on the German line north of the bank of the Somme river. British infantry are attacking at some points and fighting continues. There is sharp fighting in Dobruja. The Russians took several hundred Teuton prisoners, also three guns and some stores. The Allies will definitely decline to negotiate peace on the basis of "as you were-before-the-war."

Joffre will be made a Marshal of France. No more Canadian recruits are required at present for the naval air service. The war conference of Britain and her dominions is to be held in February.

DAILY MEMORANDA

See top of page 2, right hand corner for probabilities. BORN. LATURNEY—On Dec. 25th, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Laturney, 320 Princess street, a daughter.

MARRIED. ALBERTSON-BROWN—At 372 Johnson street, Kingston, on Tuesday, Dec. 26th, 1916, by Rev. J. W. Stebbins, William John Albertson, of Kingston, to Laura Amelia Brown, of Sydney, Ont.

MACDONALD-FAIRLIE—On December 26th, 1916, at the residence of the bride's parents, Brock street, Kingston, by the father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. J. W. Stebbins, daughter of the Rev. John and Mrs. Fairlie, to Rev. J. A. MacDonald, Goyle Bay, Ont.

DEED. LAWSON—In Kingston, on Tuesday, December 26th, 1916, Serena Stagg, wife of Henry Stagg Lawson, of the late John Stagg, Kingston, aged 84 years, Funeral on Thursday, 29th inst. at 2:30 p.m. from Sydenham Street Methodist church, to Catholic cemetery.

MILLS—In Chicago, on Christmas morning, Ann Mills, widow of the late John Mills of Kingston, aged 84 years, Funeral, Friday morning, at 10:30 a.m. from her son's residence, 422 University Avenue. Service at 10 o'clock.

MARRIAGES—In Kingston, Wednesday, Dec. 27th, 1916, William James Morrison, 369 Alfred street, aged 72 years. Funeral notice later.

JAMES REID

The Old Firm of Undertakers 254 and 256 FALCON STREETS Phone 147 for Ambulance.

ROBERT J. REID

The Leading Undertaker Phone 577, 250 Princess Street

Familiar Quotations

All that our forefathers fought for and achieved, all that we have inherited and accomplished, our institutions and liberties, our destiny as a nation, the existence of our Empire, are all at stake in this conflict. And I am confident that the resolution, the determination, the self-reliance, the resourcefulness, which never failed Canada in the stress and trials of the past, will assuredly not fail her now. —SIR ROBERT L. BORDEN.

OFFICIAL WAR STATEMENTS

BRITISH.

London, Dec. 26.—"Practical destruction of the enemy's force" in the engagement Saturday at Maghdah (Egypt) was announced by the War Office to-day. The text of the statement reads: "The following probably are the final details regarding Maghdah: The total captures were 1,350 prisoners, including 45 officers, four mountain guns, three Krupp guns, a large number of rifles, 100,000 rounds of small ammunition, some gun ammunition, a number of horses and camels, and transports and other equipment. The total enemy engaged numbered 1,900 to 2,000, so practically the whole force was destroyed. "Further south one of our mobile columns advanced through Milla Pass, destroying the enemy defences at the eastern end thereof. It burned his camps at Sunderheitman and a point six miles further towards Nektel."

FRENCH.

Paris, Dec. 26.—The War Office bulletin issued Tuesday night reads: "There was great activity by both armies in the sectors of Belloy-en-Santerre and Foucoicourt. Everywhere else the cannonade was intermittent. "An earlier report said: "There was nothing to report last night with the exception of rather lively artillery fighting in the region south of Lihon. Ten of our aviators yesterday bombarded the railroad station and barracks at Neule and enemy encampments in the Chapitre wood and at Ourscamp."

GERMAN.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—Tuesday's War Office statement reads: "Western front. In some sectors of the Ypres front, on both sides of La Bassée Canal and west of Lens, the activity of the artillery increased. Advances by strong British patrols were repeatedly repulsed. "Front of Prince Leopold. On the lower Stokhod the Russian artillery was more active than usual. North-west of Lutsk an enterprise conducted by German detachments resulted in the bringing in of 16 prisoners. "Macedonian front. Successful patrol advances were made by Bulgarian infantry northwest of Monastir. In the bend of the Cerna there has been artillery firing of varying violence."

WHIS CONTENTS

- 1—War Conference in February; Stole Nickel for Germany; Calling Conference. 2—National Service Plans; Local News. 3—Peak of Prosperity; Social Events; Daily Inside News. 4—Editorial Notes; Random Reels. 5—Letters to the Editor; A Sober Christmas. 6—Eastern Ontario News. 7—Announcements; The Forum. 8—Military Matters; Theatrical. 9—Fun on New Year's Eve; Confessions of Roxane; Menus; Social News; Township Councils. 10—Fashion Illustrated; Late Market Reports. 11—In the World of Sport.