

THE DAILY NEWS

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PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

SIR WILFRED TAKES VANCOUVER BY STORM

THIRTY THOUSAND APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO HEAR CANADA'S GREAT MAN

THE FATE OF VENICE NOW HANGS IN THE BALANCE

CITY IS NOW AN UNAPPROACHABLE ISLAND TO WITHSTAND SIEGE—ALL ART TREASURES ARE IN SAFETY AND THE POPULATION DEPARTED—BRITISH POSITIONS IMPROVED—FIGHTING IN CHAMPAGNE

(Special to The Daily News.)

Rome, Dec. 15.—The fate of Venice now hangs in the balance. On the outcome of the Italian battles depends the destiny of the Queen of cities. The Romans will expend their last drop of blood in her defence. The city is now being converted into an unapproachable island to withstand the siege. The Venetian plains now constitute a veritable labyrinth of defences. All the art treasures of Venice have been carried away to places of safety or else buried under mountains of sand bags. Most of the population of the city has departed.

German Reinforcements.

London, Dec. 15.—Owing to Russia's disintegration and the Italian defeats, the enemy is now able to put larger forces than ever on the French front. There are now a hundred and fifty German divisions, equal to about two million, two hundred and fifty thousand men, on the western front, and seventy-nine divisions on the eastern front. "We must expect half a million fresh German fighters on the western front and many more guns and air craft," declared the Times' military critic, Colonel Repington, in an article today emphatically warning the nation that Germany was preparing for her supreme military effort there.

British Front.

The British have improved their positions to the east of Bullecourt as the result of bomb fighting last night. The enemy artillery is active at different points south of the Scarpe and

also to the northeast of Ypres.

Russian Prisoners.

Petrograd, Dec. 15.—The Russian authorities have ordered the release of civilian German prisoners in exchange for four thousand Russian officers in German prisons. It is reported that the Russian troops have been ordered to evacuate Finland. The independence of Finland is said to be recognized. A warning has been issued to Kerensky that if he does not surrender voluntarily immediately, he may be lynched if found.

French Front.

Paris, Dec. 15.—Artillery fighting occurred last night in the Champagne district. Nothing else is reported.

Berlin's Report.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—The British troops endeavoring to recapture their lost trenches at Bulle court on the Cambrai front, were beaten back. The French artillery fire has increased on the east front.

VICTORY IS NOW A QUESTION OF SHIPS

In view of the facilities which exist in Prince Rupert for the building of ships, and which have never been utilized by the G.T.P. Development Co., Ltd., nor taken over by the Borden government, the following dispatch received today is of interest. The dispatch reads:

"London, December 15.—Lloyd George in a speech last night at the Lawyers' Club says victory is now a question of tonnage. NOTHING BUT SHORTAGE OF SHIPS CAN OVERPOWER THE ALLIES."

This is nothing new. The Borden government have known what all the people of Canada know, that the allies require ships, ships and still more ships. Prince Rupert has a ship shed, and other splendid locations for slips for laying down ships of any size. How the Borden government have risen to the occasion in Prince Rupert needs no further comment.

"Kozie" Fireside slippers—Wallace's. tf.

CITY OF PRINCE RUPERT

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The City is about to publish a new Telephone Directory, please advise the Capt. in writing before Dec. 24th of any alterations in listings desired therein.

FAKED CABLE TO AID UNIONISTS

The Peck committee published as paid advertising what purported to be a cable from our boys overseas, asking support for the Tory Unionist government candidate. The fact is that one of the brave lads, who was supposed to have signed the message, was killed six months ago, or thereby. Another has never been in khaki and is still in Canada. A letter from still another sends quite the opposite message. Some of the others are on the firing line while some are in England.

Need more be said as to the alleged message? Is it not manifest that it was forged? The facts speak for themselves. The Unionists realize that the great wave of opinion from the common people will no longer stand for Borden and his financial group, who have been profiteering in the blood of the soldiers. Hence the faked messages as to the soldiers' vote. A safe bet is that the vote overseas will go about sixty-four or almost so in favor of Canada's Grand Old Man, whose life has been consecrated to Britain and a United Canada.

MERRYFIELD SENDS HILDITCH TO SKEENA

(Special to The Daily News.)
Vancouver, Dec. 15.—J. H. Hilditch has been a frequent passenger on the coast steamers recently. He is the emissary of J. E. Merryfield to the southern polls of the Skeena riding, in the interests of the Tory Unionist candidate, Col. Peck.

MAJOR H. BELL IRVING COMMANDS 16TH BATT.

(Special to The Daily News.)
Victoria, B. C., Dec. 15.—Major H. Bell Irving, who has given such splendid service to his country, has been recently given temporary command of the 16th Battalion in the Canadian forces.

Are you puzzled about what to give HER? Try Wallace's. tf.

The following telegram has been received in town: "To my agent, Prince Rupert, B. C., "Very strong and enthusiastic support from soldiers. Think success assured. "PECK" advt.

FRED STORK RETURNS FROM TOUR OF RIDING

Mr. Fred Stork, the Liberal candidate for the Skeena riding for the Dominion House of Parliament, returned to town last evening after having toured the greater part of this constituency. Mr. Stork had an enthusiastic reception in practically every place in the riding, and is confident that on Monday he will receive the majority of the votes which will be cast by the electorate.

The issues before the people at this election are such that they affect everyone directly, and the voters are thinking for themselves more than ever before. On that account, Mr. Stork is confident that he has the majority of the voters in this district behind him in supporting Sir Wilfrid Laurier and democratic government.

BY ACCLAMATION

(Special to The Daily News.)
Ottawa, Dec. 15.—With the close of the Dominion campaign, practically at hand it looks as though there will be twenty-five seats in which there will be no contest. Ten of these are Unionist, and the Liberals will have fifteen seats by acclamation.

LAURIER SPEAKS TO FIVE MEETINGS IN VANCOUVER

THOUSANDS HEAR THE VETERAN CANADIAN STATESMAN AND THOUSANDS MORE FAIL TO OBTAIN ADMISSION—TREMENDOUS ENTHUSIASM AMONGST VANCOUVER PEOPLE FOR GRAND OLD MAN

(Special to The Daily News.)

Vancouver, Dec. 15.—Making his first visit to Vancouver since 1910, Sir Wilfrid Laurier arrived here yesterday morning on board the Imperial Limited. Great crowds, surpassing even those which greeted him at Winnipeg, Regina or Calgary, greeted his arrival in the most enthusiastic manner. His reception in Vancouver was simply great.

In less than nine hours, he spoke to five gatherings of the electors, upon the real issues which are before the Dominion at this present time. One of the meetings was held in the great ballroom of the Hotel Vancouver, and was exclusively for women. They filled the big room to overflowing to which admission was only to be had by ticket. This was the great Liberal leader's first and longest address. From there, he went to four of the largest theatres in the city, which were crammed to the limit of their capacity with supporters and admirers of Sir Wilfrid. In all he spoke to ten thousand persons, and thousands were turned away disappointed, unable to get accommodation in the various buildings. Everywhere Sir Wilfrid was received with hearty cheers and was listened to with close attention.

Conscription.

Sir Wilfrid devoted the greater part of the time to the conscription issue. He declared that by persuasion, and not by coercion, he would bring the province of Quebec into line with the other provinces of the Dominion in the matter of enlistment. He held that the Borden government was responsible for the showing made by Quebec, and charged that there had been an alliance between the Conservatives and the Nationalists, which had spent the Conservatives' money teaching Quebec not to fight in the Empire's wars. "I am called a quitter," said Sir Wilfrid. "It is said that if Laurier wins the election, Canada quits the war."

To the Finish.

"I answer that if Laurier wins, Canada is still in the war, and then in the war to the finish. From the day on which war broke out, I stood behind the government in all measures to help to win the war. I never intended to give the government a slavish support, whether right or wrong, but I gave it the support of a free British

subject, which I am. Sir Robert Borden stated that the Military Service Bill became necessary because the voluntary enlistment had broken down. I denied that that reason was a good one, and stated that in the ten months that preceded the introduction of conscription into the House of Commons, enlistment under the voluntary system had reached to between six and seven thousand men monthly, which was quite ample to provide reinforcements.

The Blame.

"My countrymen know how to fight, when they want to fight. At the same time, I must say that Quebec has not done as well as the other provinces in the matter of enlistment. But the blame rests altogether upon the shoulders and upon the conscience of the Borden government. They created the sentiment that exists in Quebec. The Conservatives in 1911 concluded an alliance with Bourassa and the Quebec Nationalists to carry on a war against Laurier. The creed of the Nationalists was that under no circumstances should Canada participate in the wars of Great Britain. Blondin and Sevigny preached this doctrine and the Conservatives financed it.

Tory Money.

"There was an alliance of this kind, but later it fell apart and the truth came out. It was Tory money that taught the people of Quebec never to participate in the Empire's wars. I want Frenchmen to fight. I will make them fight, and I hope, by persuasion. When their passions and prejudices have been aroused, the way to undo the evil is not by compulsion. The way is to appeal to reason and sentiment, to mind and heart.

Common Nationality.

"The methods followed by the Laurier government in the past will be the ones followed in the future by the Laurier government. I stand upon the broad principles of Canadian nationality. I am not appealing to any creed, nor any race, but simply to our common nationality and Canadian citizenship."

WESTHOLME THEATRE

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19TH.

In aid of funds of Cadet Corps

GRAND XMAS RECITAL OF DICKENS' CHRISTMAS CAROL

— BY —

PRINCIPAL J. C. BRADY

also

SPECIAL XMAS PICTURES

Tickets 35c and 50c. Reserve at Ormes Ltd. Doors open at

7:30, start at 8 p. m.

PUBLIC MEETING

Empress Theatre, Saturday, Dec. 15

AT 8 P. M.

In the interests of

Mr. Fred Stork, Liberal Candidate,

SEATS RESERVED FOR LADIES

Everybody Welcome

FISHERMEN, ATTENTION!

Meeting City Hall Sunday 2 o'clock. For purpose electing officers. Question proposed Trap License Pearl Harbor will be discussed.

Independent Fishermen & Boat Owners Association

NOTICE!

Electors will please note that the Polls open at 9 a. m. and close at 5 p. m. Every employer shall on polling day give to every voter in his employ at LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL HOUR for voting, other than the noon hour and shall make no deduction in the pay of such employees, nor impose nor exact any penalty from any employee by reason of absence during such hour.

Everybody Invited FINAL RALLY

IN WESTHOLME THEATRE on

Saturday Night, December 15

AT 8 O'CLOCK

— IN SUPPORT OF —

Colonel C. W. Peck, D. S. O.

Independent and Soldier's Candidate for the House of Commons in the Skeena Riding.

GOOD SPEECHES GOOD MUSIC GOOD PICTURES

SELF'S

FOR QUALITY

SERVICE and SATISFACTION AND A SIX DAY WEEK FOR HELP.

SELF'S CAFE, WHITE LUNCH, ROYAL CAFE.