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PEACE CONFERENCE IS SUSPENDED AGAIN

COMPULSORY RATIONING FOR BRITAIN --- MUD ON WEST FRONT TIES THINGS UP

AUSTRO-GERMAN ATTEMPTS AGAIN FAIL IN ITALY

ON LOWER PIAVE, ITALIANS SUCCESSFULLY WITHSTAND HUNGARIAN EFFORTS TO DRIVE WEDGE TOWARDS VENICE—PROGRESS MADE IN PALESTINE—FLANDERS MUD AGAIN HOLDS UP OPERATIONS IN WEST

(Special to The Daily News).
London, Jan. 21.—The War Office last night issued the following statement regarding the operations in Palestine: "Yesterday our line was advanced to a maximum depth of a mile on a four-mile front in the neighborhood of Durah, twelve miles north of Jerusalem. Some prisoners were captured."

Italian Front.
There is only one other spot on the military map showing any activity out of the ordinary during this formidable winter weather, and that is on the right flank of the Italian river front, on the lower reaches of the Piave. Here the Austrians have made a further effort in their attempted drive into the Italian lines near the CapoSite to wedge their way to-

wards Venice. This latest assault appears to have been no more successful than their other recent efforts. The Italians are meeting the enemy with a devastating artillery fire, and are wiping out with machine guns and rifle fire the few detachments who succeed in getting across no man's land to the defensive barricades.

British Front.
British Headquarters, France, January 21.—Small infantry raids with the customary amount of artillery and air activity on both sides continue to be the order of the day along the British front. The much milder weather accompanied by a drizzling rain, has swept away the last of the snow, but the mud remains as the dictator in affairs military.

BOLSHEVIKI DISSOLVE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

(Special to The Daily News).
Petrograd, Jan. 21.—The Constituent Assembly has been dissolved. The decree of dissolution has been issued by Council of National Commission, and passed by the central executive committee of the soldiers and workmen's deputies. The newly elected assembly was convened for the first time on Friday in the Tauride Palace. The vote for the President showed that the Bolsheviki government headed by Lenin and Trotsky was greatly in the minority, hence steps were promptly taken to put it out of existence.

PATRIOTIC FUND DRIVE IN TORONTO TODAY

Toronto, Jan. 19.—The Duke of Devonshire has arrived here to be present at the opening of the three million dollar drive for the Patriotic Fund on Monday. This afternoon, His Excellency visited the Davisville Military Hospital.

THE POPE AND THE FUTURE JERUSALEM

Rome, Jan. 19.—According to the "Messaggero" the Pope will address a circular letter to all bishops in belligerent States saying that if any Christian country assist the Turks in an attempt to reconquer Jerusalem it will be condemned by the Vatican.

HINDENBURG AND HIS GUIDING STAR

Amsterdam.—On the occasion of the visit of a party of publishers and editors to Main German Headquarters, Field Marshal von Hindenburg is reported by the "Kölnische Volkszeitung" to have said, "God's help and our righteous cause are our guiding star," and then raising his voice, to have added, "Keep your courage up. That's German, that's Prussian, that's Rhinelandish."

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COMEDY

ISLANDS SPRUCE IS BEST IN THE PROVINCE

Stand of Timber on the Queen Charlotte Islands is Sufficient for Years.

Mr. Wm. Shannon, who has been interested in timber in the province for the past forty years, recently gave an interview to the press in which he stated that the spruce to be found in the south is of an inferior quality and can not stand up as compared with that to be found in some sections of the north and on the islands. He pointed out that considerable expense could be saved to the government were the lumber shipped from Prince Rupert, which is near the source of production, instead of towing the logs 500 miles to Vancouver.

"The spruce to be found in the adjoining states and in the southern part of this province," said Mr. Shannon, "is of an inferior quality. It is a hard spruce carrying pitch, the percentage of merchantable lumber being very small. In the north we have the white spruce, named, probably, after its color. It is free from knots and is most desirable for the special purpose for which the authorities require it."

He went on to say that a large percentage of the spruce on the Queen Charlotte Islands was of the white variety, which could be found in sufficient quantities to supply the Dominion government for years to come. It was particularly strong in fibre and had very little heart.—"Lumberman."

THE POLICE COURT

Three boys were arraigned before Magistrate Carss in the police court this morning charged with "breaking and entering the Hub Pool Room." They pleaded guilty, and on account of their extreme youth, the case was dismissed. The eldest of the boys, however, has to leave town and go to work. He goes up the line on this morning's train.

NOTICE—Our stock of merchandise has been slightly damaged by water. Therefore, it must be sold at a loss to clear. A new and complete selection of spring and summer goods, second to none in quality, will arrive shortly.—HOFFMAN'S

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NAVAL ACTION AT ENTRANCE TO DARDANELLES

Two Turkish Cruisers Destroyed—One Sunk and One Beached—Formerly German Goeben and Breslau.

(Special to The Daily News).

London, Jan. 21.—A sharp naval action between the British and Turkish forces took place near to the entrance of the Dardanelles. The Turkish cruiser Midulla has been sunk, and the Sultan Selim had to be beached in order to save the lives of the crew. These were formerly the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau, which escaped from the Mediterranean into the shelter of the Dardanelles immediately after the outbreak of war. These vessels have been hit repeatedly by the Russian warships in the Black Sea and by British aeroplanes, while they were at anchor in the Golden Horn. Each time, however, their German crews have been able to effect repairs. On this occasion, however, they are beyond repair. Details of the action in which the British vessels disposed of them are meantime vague.

DISAPPOINTMENT FOR SIMPSON THIRSTY ONES

Mr. Neysmouth keeps a store on the Indian reserve at Port Simpson. Mr. Neysmouth sells, among other things, pure apple juice, which is called cider. He keeps a cask of it upon his counter. Mr. Neysmouth apparently had some customers who considered that cider was rather insipid to the palate. It lacked kick. It was not of the "stingo" family. To please his customers, and at the same time increase his trade, Mr. Neysmouth arranged for the importation into the reserve of a greybeard. A jar of gin, with which to flavor his alleged insipid cider.

On a fateful morning last week the joyful word went around the braves who were interested in "cider-with-a-kick." The Thirsty Ones were gathered together in the store in solemn conclave. A boy was despatched to the wharf for the jar of flavoring. He came. He passed the greybeard over the counter in the sight of the assembled Thirsty Ones, who in anticipation were smacking their lips. The cider barrel was all ready, with the bung out. Everyone stood expectant to witness the ceremony of mixing pure apple juice with the "Elixir of life," thereby to make "Cider-with-a-kick." Solemnly, and grave, Mr. Neysmouth stood, with the jar in his arms, when suddenly, a firm step was heard upon the doorstep, and the smiling countenance of Constable Watkinson appeared. The solemnity and gravity of the occasion increased visibly. The situation was tense.

A nod was as good as a wink, and sadly Mr. Neysmouth accompanied the constable to where there was a "jug." The barrel of pure apple juice still stands upon the counter of Mr. Neysmouth's store, and the Thirsty Ones are still without their cider-with-a-kick. The "jug" still contains some overproof gin, but Mr. Neysmouth got out after paying a fine of \$100.

That same morning, in the early hours, Mr. Isaac Shepherd, also of the Port Simpson reserve, called at the wharf for two small boxes which had come for him. He was early. There was no one around. He was on his way home,

CONFERENCE AT BREST-LITOVSK AGAIN STOPPED

Trotsky Returns to Petrograd—Germany Refuses to Withdraw Her Troops from Occupied Areas.

(Special to The Daily News).

London, Jan. 21.—The peace conference proceedings at Brest-Litovsk again have been suspended, and Trotsky is reported to have returned to Petrograd. Foreign observers in Petrograd believe that the negotiations are working towards a final break, and the falling of the price of the German mark in neutral countries is pointed to as an indication of loss of confidence among neutrals as the result of the parley.

The obstacle to the further discussion of peace is the continued disinclination of the Central Empires to withdraw all troops in the occupied regions of Russia, and their uncertain attitude regarding the return of the deported population before the question of self determination is put. The Russians are apparently sticking just as firmly as ever to their demands along these lines.

TRAWLING ADVOCATED BY PREMIER BREWSTER

Victoria, January 21.—Premier Brewster, who is an authority on fishing on the Pacific coast, has been studying the question of Canada's food supply and has concluded that British Columbia can supply fish for food to all Western Canada as far east as Winnipeg. This can be done at such fair prices as will induce the people of the prairie provinces, as well as the interior of this province, to substitute more generally fish for beef and bacon. He proposes the taking of small ground fish with otter trawls, and by this cheap method, the consumer should get two pounds of fish for fifteen cents.

This method of fishing has been successfully pursued from Prince Rupert for more than a year past.

THE CRADLE

Born to Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Mostyn-Hoops, of Telkwa, B. C., at the Prince Rupert General Hospital on January 20th, a daughter.

when the same constable met him and casually enquired what he had under his arm wrapped in a slicker. Mr. Shepherd felt sad, also, but he showed what he had. It was bottles of good Scotch and Hudson's Bay rum, fit for any palate. They had come all the way from Saskatchewan, too. Singing silently, "Thou art so near, and yet so far," Mr. Shepherd in these early hours was also locked up, and parted with \$100 to regain his freedom.

Mr. Perry, the Indian agent, happened to be at Simpson at the time and held court. It is expected that the Dominion government will take the matter up and prosecute the firms who supplied this liquor.

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GREAT BRITAIN TO GO ON COMPULSORY RATIONING

INDIVIDUAL FOOD CARDS TO BE ISSUED TO EVERY PERSON, ADULT OR CHILD—NEW REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE ON FEBRUARY 25—PRESENT SYSTEM OF SUPPLY CAUSING DISSATISFACTION

London, Jan. 21.—Compulsory rationing has come. The city of London, and the home counties will be on rations, so much per head of population, and no more, by February 25th. The actual details of the scheme have not been irrevocably decided yet, because the local food committees have until Monday (today) to proffer any late suggestions as to the workings of the plan proposed. It is probable, however, that individual food cards will be issued to every one, including children below legal age, who will receive cards different in color.

Each card will contain four sets of spaces, for cancellation by the shopkeeper. The first set will be used for the purchase of butter, margarine, etc., and the other sets

for the purchase of other food-stuffs.

Extreme dissatisfaction has been expressed from different parts of the country at the manner in which food is at present being distributed. The supplies of butter, etc., are so small, even although the shopkeepers can only sell a limited quantity to each customer, often by midday the stocks are exhausted. In order to obtain supplies at all, in many parts the housewife finds it necessary to be out very early in the morning to get a place in the queues which stream from each merchant's door. Even in some cases, after waiting for hours, the supplies will run out. By the card system, it is hoped to regulate supplies much better.

FINANCING THE WAR IN AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

Zurich, Jan. 19.—The Austro-Hungarian Bank has just made a loan to the Austrian and Hungarian Governments of 1,500,000,000 kroner, repayable 18 months after the conclusion of peace and bearing interest at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent. As the bank has really no means of providing this sum, it simply prints bank notes and hands them over to the respective Governments. The newspapers call attention to the perils attaching to such methods of finance.

SORTING SOLDIERS' VOTE IS A BIG JOB

Ottawa, Jan. 21.—The counting of the soldier votes, both in Canada and overseas, is expected to be completed by February 9th, and final election results will be announced immediately.

The work of sorting the ballots according to constituencies is now proceeding for the overseas vote at London and for the home vote at Ottawa. The actual counting will not begin until the ballots are sorted and allocated to their respective constituencies. This is the big part of the task and will take about four weeks. The final process of counting will be a comparatively simple and brief task. A staff of twelve scrutineers, six representing the Government and six the Opposition, is now at work on the forty thousand ballots cast by members of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces in Canada. There are 206 bags of ballots and every ballot has to be inspected for the home address of the voter and allocation to the proper constituency.

G. T. P. ARRANGING FOR ANOTHER STEAMER FOR ALASKA TRADE

Vancouver, Jan. 19.—On account of the growth of the trade arising to and from Alaskan ports and Prince Rupert, the G. T. P. Steamship Company are at present arranging for the purchase of the steamer F. A. Kilburn from the Independent Steamship Co. The Kilburn has been plying between the Columbia river and San Francisco in the freight and passenger trade.

Negotiations are at present under way at San Francisco, whither Captain C. H. Nicholson, manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific Steamship Co., has gone.

MRS. HUGO JOHNSTON BURIED ON SATURDAY

The funeral of Mrs. Hugo Johnston, of Seal Cove, took place in Vancouver on Saturday. Mr. Johnston and his family accompanied the casket from Prince Rupert by last Thursday's steamer, and the funeral in Vancouver was attended by the immediate relatives of the deceased lady. There were very many floral offerings as tributes to her memory, among which were many from Prince Rupert. Among these latter were the cards of Mr. J. H. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Boddie, Mr. and Mrs. Akerburg, Dr. and Mrs. Eggert, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Thorburn, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. R. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Cummings, Mr. and Mrs. John Dybhavn, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Candow, Mr. and Mrs. W. Christisen, Seal Cove; Mr. and Mrs. K. A. Rood, Mr. and Mrs. A. Iverson, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Johnson, and Mr. and Mrs. Demers.

The mother of Mr. Johnston, and his four sisters are living in Vancouver, with whom his children will remain in the meantime, and Mr. Johnston will return to Prince Rupert in the course of a few weeks.

AUSTRIAN TROOPS FOR THE WESTERN FRONT

London, Jan. 19.—The special correspondent of the Press Association, telegraphing from Italian Headquarters, says:—"The Emperor Karl, who is reported to have a weakness for General Krobatin, has chosen him to command some Austrian divisions which have been removed from the Italian front, and are destined to help the Germans against the Franco-British forces in France. Accordingly General Krobatin has left the Trentino with the mission of returning to Germany the assistance which the German troops have given to Austria against Italy."

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