

# THE DAILY NEWS

VOL. VIII, NO. 304.

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## FRENCH CHECK THREE ATTACKS AT VERDUN

### THE VOLUNTARY SYSTEM PLEASES AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS --- NO CONSCRIPTION

#### ARTILLERY ACTIONS COMMON IN ITALY AND IN FRANCE

**FRENCH GUNFIRE REPULSES THREE GERMAN ATTEMPTS TO REACH FRENCH LINES—ON ASIAGO PLATEAU THE ITALIAN POSITIONS IMPROVED—BARRAGE PREVENTS ENEMY ADVANCING**

Paris, Dec. 28.—Very heavy artillery fire continues on the front of the Verdun sectors. Yesterday the German forces, who had been heavily reinforced, made three distinct attempts to reach the French front line trenches, but in each case the advancing enemy lines were shot down before they got across No Man's Land. The barrage fire of the French artillery was particularly accurate, which together with the deadly rifle fire of the French infantry repulsed each separate attack, inflicting very heavy losses upon the enemy. Many prisoners were taken, some of whom voluntarily gave themselves up as soon as they were within reach of the French trenches. After the third attack, the Germans did not resume their activity in this direction, but contented themselves with extremely heavy artillery bombardments of all parts of the French lines. The French batteries were not behind, and replied with two shells for every one of the Germans. Several of the enemy batteries were put out of action by direct hits from the French guns.

##### Italian Front.

Rome, Dec. 28.—Artillery action is intense on the Asiago plateau. The Germans have brought up an enormous number of guns, which were delayed en route owing to the difficulties in transport. Notwithstanding, however, their activity with this arm, the Italian and British and French gunners are fully equal to the occasion. The Italian batteries made an effective concentration of fire and kept under their barrage several sections of the enemy lines, thereby preventing the advancement of the Austro-German troops. The Italian infantry have made several dashing attacks, which have gained their objective in each instance.

Little by little, the Italian positions have been much improved as the result of the last week's fighting. It is considered that there is little possibility of the Huns breaking through the mountain passes from the north, or either getting across the Piave river, and the danger now of Italy being overrun by the Hun hordes is greatly reduced.

Xmas Tree and Entertainment at the Salvation Army Citadel on Wednesday, Dec. 26th at 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Silver collection.

On account of the increase in the cost of provisions, laundry, etc., we are compelled to advance our prices on some articles.

SELF'S CAFE, WHITE LUNCH, ROYAL CAFE.

#### WESTHOLME

OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT ONLY

Fox presents

George Walsh

In a thrilling story

"Melting Millions"

GAZETTE and COMEDY

#### AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS TURN DOWN COMPUSSION

Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 28.—The latest figures of the referendum taken regarding the question of conscription show that the majority of the voters in the Commonwealth do not wish to introduce compulsion into their domestic arrangements. The majority against conscription is now given as 183,000, which includes the soldiers' vote.

#### SOLDIERS INTERESTED IN LAND SETTLEMENT

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The Government is receiving a considerable number of inquiries indicating a desire on the part of returned soldiers to take advantage of the legislation passed last session to assist soldiers in settling upon the land and to increase agricultural production. The legislation provided for the appointment of a Soldiers' Settlement Board, consisting of three members, and the lending of money to soldier settlers to an amount not exceeding \$2,500. It was expected by the Government that the appointment of the board would have been made before this, but action was delayed by the general election. The matter will receive early attention, and the board will likely be named nearly in the new year.

#### HERRING CANNERIES FOR THE B. C. COAST

An industry which may possibly assist in the reduction of food prices, has been started on the North Shore by Mr. A. H. Sherman, managing director of the Great Northern Canneries. Mr. Sherman intends to can herrings on a system similar to salmon canning and will ship the product to troops in France, as well as selling it for Canadian consumption. Discussing the scheme Mr. Sherman said: "I want to cheapen the present cost of food. There is practically an unlimited supply of herring in the gulf which can be utilized more cheaply than salmon, while, in my opinion, herring are more nutritious. I have already commenced the work of canning and have a large order on hand for the French troops. Herrings are put up in tins, about seven fish to a tin. These, I think, should be retailed at about 20 cents per tin, which makes them much cheaper than salmon in cans."

There is no reason for present exorbitant prices of fish," continued Mr. Sherman, "and the only difficulty in our way is the absence of tonnage. We have the fish, but we can not secure the shipping facilities."

Mr. Sherman said he has a staff of fifty men engaged in canning the herring, and the fish are caught by white fishermen. His scheme, he believes, should assist in solving the dear food question. He has commenced the erection of a second cannery on the west side of Vancouver Island, about sixty miles north of Victoria, at Port Renfrew which he hopes to have in operation in two months. There will be a cold storage plant as an adjunct of the cannery.

"We have had a good salmon season," continued Mr. Sherman, "despite its rather bad beginning. Our output was above the season's average. We shipped fully 30,000 cases. I have also purchased as carriers two ships from the New England Fish Co., the Borealis and the Emma H., which should assist us next season."

For New Wellington Coal and Lumber of all dimensions. Phone 118.

#### BRING DOWN ELEVEN HUN AEROPLANES

**Austrian Squadron Attempts to Bomb Treviso, but Meets With Disaster From Allied Airmen.**

Rome, Dec. 28.—A large squadron of Austrian aeroplanes attempted to bomb the city of Treviso yesterday. The enemy machines were strong enough numerically to break through the allied cordon guarding the Piave river, and concentrated their flight upon Treviso, which lies not far behind the lines. Both Italian and British aviators immediately attacked the invaders with considerable success, bringing eleven of the Hun machines to the earth. Some of the duels in the air were thrilling affairs, and although outnumbered for the most part, the superior skill and efficiency of the allies was successful in driving the remainder of the enemy squadron in headlong flight back to their own lines. On their way across the Piave, several others were winced by the anti-aircraft guns on the front, but succeeded in landing behind the German lines.

There is no damage reported from the city of Treviso.

##### British Official.

London, Dec. 28.—There is some artillery activity north and east of Ypres. Elsewhere on the British front, quiet prevails.

##### Jellicoe's Retirement.

London, Dec. 28.—There are other changes reported in the Admiralty. The latest is the retirement of Sir John Jellicoe. The London Telegraph demands that the fullest statement be made by the government regarding Sir John's retirement.

##### Russo-German Peace.

Petrograd, Dec. 28.—Czernin said at Brest-Litovsk that the Central Powers are ready to sign a peace which shall be just to all the belligerents, and also agree to the policy of no annexations. However, Germany could not bind herself in this regard, without guarantees from Russia's allies.

#### AUSTRALIA WILL NOT HAVE CONSCRIPTION

Melbourne, Dec. 26.—The latest returns in the voting on the referendum place the result as follows:

For conscription, 792,000; and against, 967,000; majority against 175,000.

This does not include the soldier vote, now being counted in London.

##### Clash of Opinion.

London, Dec. 26.—An Australian correspondent, writing in The Times, says it is important that the issue of the referendum should not be misunderstood. It is, he says, a clash of opinion regarding the procedure. The anti-conscriptionists consider that voluntary enlistment will provide sufficient reinforcements and they fear that conscription would interfere with the agricultural and mining industries which are essential to the prosecution of the war. All recognized political parties in Australia agree that the war must be conducted until victory is achieved.

We have received 500 tons of lump, and 150 tons of nut New Wellington Coal this morning. Prompt deliveries guaranteed.—Albert & McCaffery, Ltd.

Mr. Chester Poole left yesterday evening for Vancouver.

#### ECONOMIC TROUBLES IN RUSSIA'S BUSINESS

Petrograd, Dec. 28.—On account of the unsettled conditions, prevailing in the capital, and the difficulty in procuring supplies of material and labor, two of the biggest metal plants in Petrograd employing thirty-eight thousand men are paying off their employees. It has been found preferable to suspend operations in the meantime, instead of continuing under the difficulties, which are daily getting greater.

#### BRITISH ALLEGIANCE CANADIAN LIBERTY

(From The Globe).

In reply to a request for a statement of his attitude towards the Military Service Act, especially as it affects Quebec, in the light of the election, Armand Lavergne, who was defeated in Montmagny on Monday, telegraphed The Globe from Quebec city last night:—

"Your telegram received. Having been overwhelmingly defeated in Montmagny by a Tory-Liberal combination, I am gladly out of politics, therefore have no opinion to offer, and can only pray the Almighty that Nationalist ideals may soon triumph for the maintenance of British allegiance and Canadian liberty."

#### AND "PAT" SHOULD KNOW!

Mr. "Pat" Burns, the beef king, is responsible for the statement made to a representative of The Province at the Hotel Vancouver that within the past few years the herds of cattle in Canada have almost doubled and that at the present time there is no scarcity of meat. As compared with the number of cattle in Western Canada about ten years ago, the numbers now are much greater and the quality of the beef has been well maintained. In view of this he was asked the reason for the advance in the prices and replied that it was due to the abnormal condition and the demand for beef for the men overseas. He held out a hope, however, that there would be no further rise in prices but added that there was no indication that there would be a reduction.—Province.

#### SAYS STARVATION TALK IS ONLY CAMOUFLAGE

Montreal, Dec. 27.—After more than three years of war service, Grigard-General F. W. Loomis, commanding the Second Brigade of the First Division of the Canadian forces in France, arrived in Montreal on three months' leave of absence.

Discussing the war situation, the General said:

"I think the climax must come next season, and it behooves us all to appreciate what we have been told, that this is a very anxious time, and everybody should be doing everything they can to bring about success which can only be achieved by united effort. The Germans are carrying on their political intrigues in Canada, and even in Montreal, just as elsewhere. They are spreading suggestions about their own conditions, about their starvation and lack of material on purpose, so as to dissuade us from making our extreme effort. No attention should be paid to them."

Ladysmith Wellington Coal reduces your fuel bill and gives satisfaction. Phone 15. P. R. Coal Co.

The train from the east which should in ordinary course have arrived last evening, came in this morning about four o'clock.

#### EARTHQUAKES ARE GENERAL IN GUATAMALA

**Whole Districts Throughout the Country Suffer—Many Lives Lost and Extensive Property Damage.**

Washington, Dec. 28.—Extensive earthquakes have been reported from the state of Guatemala. Different districts throughout the country have been afflicted, and there have been many lives lost, and exceedingly great destruction of property. New Guatemala, the capital, has suffered severely, also the towns of Amatitlan and Champerico.

Full details are not yet to hand, but the distance which the towns reported to be damaged are apart from each other, indicates the extent of the earth tremors. Guatemala lies almost due north of San Salvador, where there were disastrous earthquakes a few months ago. The railroad running from the Gulf of Honduras to the Pacific has been destroyed in several places, and on the coast tidal waves have been reported, which have caused much damage and destruction among the shipping.

In the capital, the government is sending relief out to the damaged towns, and has the local situation well in hand.

#### CHINA MAY SOON BE EXPORTING FLOUR

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—J. H. Ross, Canadian Trade Commissioner in China, in a recent report to the Department of Trade and Commerce, discussed the probability of China becoming a great wheat exporting country in the near future.

After noting the great decrease in the amount of imports of flour from Canada and the United States during the last two years, a decrease amounting in value to \$6,000,000, Mr. Ross says:

"The almost prohibitive cost of imported flour has greatly stimulated the cultivation of wheat in many parts of China, and the erection of new mills throughout the country has rendered China very nearly independent of outside sources. It is quite unlikely that foreign flour will ever again be received into China in the quantities previous to the war. On the other hand, it is fairly certain that Chinese flour may ultimately be exported to other countries, as has been the case with limited quantities this year."

For Prince Rupert and district, we have secured the services of Mr. Martin Kroeger, F.R.H.S. Prince Rupert, B. C., phone Red 399. Consult him about your garden problems. British Columbia Nurseries, Ltd., Vancouver, B. C.

#### TAXI! TAXI!

PHONE 55 PHONE

Reliable 24-Hour Service

#### SELF'S

FOR QUALITY

SERVICE AND SATISFACTION AND A SIX DAY WEEK FOR HELP.