

THE DAILY MAIL

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street, Fredericton, by THE MAIL PRINTING COMPANY. Subscription Price, \$4 per year. Telephone 67.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1917

THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

The Halifax Chronicle takes the ground that the recent explosion which occurred in that city, causing the loss of 1500 lives and destroying millions of dollars worth of property, was a national disaster, and therefore the loss should be made good by the Government of Canada. It points out that Halifax harbor is under the control of the Federal government, and that the Dominion is legally liable for the damage caused by the explosion on the steamer Mont Blanc, and is morally and conscientiously bound to indemnify the people of Halifax for the grievous loss and injury which has been inflicted through the direct acts of its regularly appointed and duly authorized agents.

After briefly reciting the facts of the case, the Chronicle says:

"The Dominion Government has already recognized in part its obligation to this community by appropriating a grant of five million dollars. This, we submit, must be regarded only as a preliminary and partial contribution towards the discharge of the nation's liability in this disaster. This contribution has been supplemented by a vote of a similar amount by the British government, which may or may not be regarded as a recognition of the liability of the government of the United Kingdom to indemnify Halifax for the losses it has sustained by reason of the war. Indeed, it might not be unreasonable to argue that the losses should be borne jointly by the Allies, more particularly by Canada, Great Britain, France and the United States, for all of the four countries are directly or indirectly concerned therein.

"However, that is a matter which can best be adjusted by the Dominion government, which is the authority directly charged with the responsibility and the liability.

"Several members of the Federal cabinet will be in Halifax in a day or two to consider the whole situation, and it is, we believe, imperative that the Relief Committee should place before them what we believe is the generally accepted opinion throughout the country, that this is a national loss and that the work of restoration and reparation should be undertaken by the Dominion as a national enterprise."

AFFAIRS AT OTTAWA.

As the Toronto Star points out, the Government has received a majority which will render it free from all anxieties and cares except those connected with the prosecution of Canada's part in the war. Its duties will be onerous and its responsibilities will be grave. The war has again reached a critical stage, and it will be necessary for the Allies to put forth every ounce of their strength pending the arrival of the American armies in full force. In order that Canada may do its share, it will be necessary not only that the needed reinforcements of men be sent, but that the resources of the country shall be organized in a far more systematic way than has hitherto been done. To this purpose we may now expect the Union Government to give its undivided attention. Hardly less important will be the duties and responsibilities of a new Parliament, in which for the first time the Western Provinces are adequately represented, or nearly so. The Parliament will be fresh from the people. It will contain many new members, and we may hope that it will be fruitful in suggestion and constructive criticism. The country and the cause have need of all its wisdom.

Montreal Herald: Sir Robert Borden now has an unrivalled opportunity for statesmanship of the highest order. He should call to the cabinet, which is not yet on a "fifty-fifty" basis, the very best men available. Freedom of action must be given the Prime Minister in choosing these big men, and it is a patriotic duty to back him up in his endeavors to give Canada really non-partisan government of the highest constructive type. The people have said that they want strong, aggressive leadership with the co-operation of all parties, full participation in winning the war, the abolition of graft and patronage, and delivery from the food profiteers. They have asked for these things. They have been promised them. Now is the time for delivery.

Boston Globe: At this season of the year, when we hear so much about peace on earth, good will to men, and all that sort of talk, we take pleasure in hoping that next Christmas will find the Kaiser and his crew at Saint Helena, if they haven't already gone to a more deserved warm climate.

The prospects are, says an exchange, that the winter wheat crop, when harvested next summer, will be larger than a year ago, but still short of what the experts desired. Labor conditions a few months ago when plowing and planting were necessary, have reduced the prospective yield.

Hon. F. B. Carvell, Minister of Public Works, is to be honored by the citizens of St. John this evening. A public reception is to be tendered him in the rooms of the Elks Club. Representative men from all parts of the province have been invited to be present.

The Board of Railway Commissioners has authorized a 15 per cent. increase in passenger and freight rates on all railways in the Dominion. No date is named as to when the change will come into effect.

Through Our Sieve

Some men are under the impression that lungs are brains.

No, Pauline, kissing isn't always what it is smacked up to be.

An optimist is a man who goes about assuring everybody that smallpox is nothing but chicken-pox.

Speaking of camouflage, Ivorybean says, suppose a skunk looked the way he smells!

Mrs. O'Hevens says that the fire alarm makes a noise like when freedom shrieked as Kosciusko fell.

When a woman says to a man, "Tell me you still love me!" she knows he doesn't.

Isn't Nature wonderful? Down south where the centipedes live they don't have to buy overshoes.

What has become of the old-fashioned small boy who used to throw hunks of anthracite at the backyard cats?

The Allied attitude toward the Bolsheviks seems to be that they can get their next meal where they got their jag.

Strange how the young of the human race persists in crawling out from under the covers at night and living through it!

Although this is not preserving time, while the city fathers are canning the white way and salting down the sidewalks, they should also bottle up the fire whistle at the electric plant.

SERIOUS FIRE AT HALIFAX

(Canadian Press direct wire.) Halifax, Dec. 27.—Fire destroyed the Clayton military convalescent home in the north end of the city.

There were no patients in the building. The matron, cook and orderlies escaped without injury. Some time ago the building was handed over to the military hospitals commission by W. J. Clayton to be used as a convalescent home for returned soldiers.

TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF STUDY

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

New York, Dec. 27.—Study of foreign languages in the elementary schools of the city will be discontinued after February 1, under a decision reached by the board of education at a meeting tonight. While applying equally to all languages German will be affected chiefly because about 65 per cent. of the children in the elementary grades who are studying foreign tongues are taking courses in German.

Mr. J. P. Brand of St. John, is in the city. Mr. Louis P. A. Robichaud is Richibucto in the city.

WILL NOT ISSUE BREAD CARDS

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Paris, Dec. 27.—The issuance of bread cards, which was to have been made on January 1, will not be carried out. The minister of provisions, Victor Boret, made this announcement today. He said the inhabitants of Paris and the other chief cities seemed to have grasped the seriousness of the appeal for food conservation which had been addressed to them, and that he was satisfied with the bread consumption of the last few weeks.

EARTHQUAKE IN PANAMA

Panama, Dec. 27.—An earthquake is reported to have occurred near Amacatlan, fifteen miles south of Guatemala, Guatemala. Telegraphic communication has been interrupted and no details have been received.

WAR VETERAN RESIGNS OFFICE

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—Sergt. Major James Robinson, D.C.M., of Vancouver, has resigned his vice-presidency in the Dominion Great War Veteran's Association, and from office in the local veterans' organization. Sergt. Major Robinson was non-committal when asked for his reasons, but said the association had broken away from the spirit of the veterans' cause. It is rumored that he will enter provincial politics.

SOCIALISTS ARRESTED.

London, Dec. 27.—More than three hundred members of the German minority socialist party were arrested on Christmas eve by the German military authorities, according to a Zurich despatch given out today.

VOCATIONAL CLASSES

(Continued from page 3.) versity for the completion of their education, may be allowed to emphasize on special subjects.

Evening Classes.

Plans were made, conditionally, for reopening the evening vocational schools after the Christmas vacation. At present it is expected that these classes will begin the twenty lesson course about the middle of January. The trustees do not yet feel warranted in starting advanced work in the classes, although the lady members of the board, who have an eye to the practical side of the grown young women, seem to favor a line of dress-making in connection with the Domestic Science Department.

During the session an accumulation of correspondence was disposed of, war time applications for increase of salary were allowed to take the usual course, the payment of Christmas expenses was approved, and a number of bills ordered to be paid before closing.

INFORMATION FOR FARMERS

(Experimental Farms Note.)

All investigations go to show that farm manure has its greatest value when fresh, that the liquid portion is richer than the solid material and that the former is more readily lost through drainage and leaching. Hence it is that every precaution is taken here to ensure a minimum loss of plant food constituents in the manure and is the chief reason for applying manure to the land where practicable, as quickly as possible after it is produced.

At the Central Farm, Ottawa, the liquid manure is absorbed by means of litter, usually cut straw, and as each load of mixed liquid and solid manure is gathered it is taken directly to the field and is spread on the land either by hand or by means of the manure spreader, as convenient. This method is carried on consistently throughout the year although during occasional winter seasons this system may be disorganized for a time due to the depth or snow or other causes. The contour of the land at this farm which varies from fairly level to gently rolling lends itself admirably to the foregoing plan of procedure.

The manure is always applied systematically in definite cropping systems or crop rotations. The amount and frequency of application vary according to the duration of the rotation but without exception, in the regular farm rotations, six tons per acre of fresh manure is allotted to each year

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For the Frosty Fall and Cold Winter Nights that are before us, is found only in our "Cozy," Warm, Light and High Class

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They give you the MAXIMUM OF WARMTH AND COMFORT with the MINIMUM OF WEIGHT AND COST. A Good Down Quilt will last for years, is warmer and cheaper than all wool blankets, and is a large factor in producing the good healthful and refreshing sleep that will add years to your life. You will find here the finest assortment in the city, in dainty colors to match the color scheme of your room, all marked at LOWEST LIVING PRICES—from \$6.90 to \$22.00. You don't know what you're missing if you are not using the BEST OF DOWN QUILTS—McLINTOCK'S.

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BUY NOW, while the cold weather is ahead of you, while the assortment is good, and while the price is reasonable. Later on they are absolutely certain to cost you more, as we are getting advance prices continually.

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of the rotation. For instance, in a three-year system, of hoed, grain and hay crops, eighteen tons is applied for the hoed crop. In four-year rotations twenty-four tons is the quantity used. For a five-year rotation the amount is thirty tons, of which fifteen tons is applied for the hoed crops and the balance is spread in lighter dressings for the clover and timothy hay areas.

Where manure is applied for cultivated or hoed crops the importance of incorporating the manure thoroughly with the soil as near to the surface as practicable is closely observed.

Will be sent to any address in New Brunswick, from now

until Jan. 1st 1919

for

Two Dollars

Payable in advance