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# The Daily Mail

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* The Weather. \*  
\* Moderate winds, fair today, fol- \*  
\* lowed by southeast winds and \*  
\* sleet or rain at night. \*  
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VOL. XXIII., No. 2

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1917

TWO CENTS PER COPY

## GERMAN PIRATES ARE AGAIN SHOWING GREAT ACTIVITY

### The Russians Are Making A Stand in Roumania

**Reports Show That the Long and Stubborn Retreat has Been Halted---Big Battle Thought to be Impending---New Blood in Higher Commands of French Army.**

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The Russian and German communiques published today in reference to the fighting in Roumania are interpreted here as indicating that the long and stubborn retreat of the Russians to the Sereth line is virtually ended. Fokshany and Fundeni, positions mentioned in the Berlin report, are two of the main points on the 50 miles of fortifications behind which the Russians are about to make a stand.

It is assumed that the unnamed "prepared positions" mentioned in the Russian communique are those along the Sereth, and it is believed that a big battle, which might have serious consequences, is impending. The flank attack on the Moldavian frontier continues obstinately, but there is nothing to elucidate the confusing reports as to the results contained in the respective communiques issued by Russia and Germany.

The Russian and Roumanian forces still hold Braila, maintaining their grip on the bridgehead which defends their last foothold in Wallachia.

The corresponding bridgehead at Matchin, in Dobrudja, has, however, been further reduced by successful German attacks.

BERLIN, via London, Jan. 2.—United States Ambassador Gerard took advantage of a New Year's call yesterday to discuss the Entente answer to Germany's peace proposal with Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg. The ambassador is believed to have learned what possibility there is of Germany accepting favorably a renewed request for conditions of peace if the United States should make such a move.

PARIS, Jan. 3.—General Lyautey, Minister of War, is following vigorously the policy begun with the relieving of General Joffre of the supreme command of the armies in France, and is constantly injecting new blood into the higher commands. One of his first acts as Minister of War was the transfer of seven generals to the reserve and promoting younger men who had made their mark in the fighting along the Somme and at Verdun.

#### German Pirates Planting Mines at the Entrance of Harbors in Great Britain

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Passengers arriving here on the Holland-American line steamer Nieuw Amsterdam say that German mines containing exceptionally high explosives have been planted close to all the large harbors in England, Scotland and Wales. They point to the experience of the Nieuw Amsterdam and their own narrow escape as confirmation.

Upon her arrival off the Port of Falmouth, England, from Rotterdam, a British trawler was sent out of Falmouth to sweep the entrance of the Dutch steamship. The trawler struck a mine and was blown to bits, seven of her crew of twelve men being killed.

Two trawlers then preceded the Nieuw Amsterdam, dragging the channel. The wreckage of the trawler that was blown up was scattered about the harbor mouth as the steamship passed in. The passengers heard that the mine planting was started two weeks ago, prior to the order of the Admiralty forbidding the announcement by British firms in this country of the sailings and arrivals of vessels. They asserted that mines were anchored instead of being set adrift promiscuously in the war zone about the British Isles, and that submarines with compartments for divers were used in laying the mines.

#### Greek Government is Now Considering The Latest Note of the Entente Powers

LONDON, Jan. 3.—Reuter's Athens correspondent cables the following semi-official note referring to the recent demands of the Entente Allies on the Greek government for reparation for the losses suffered as a result of the recent clash between Greeks and Entente troops at Athens:

"The government is considering the latest note presented by the Allied powers. Despite its desire to give another proof of its sincerity towards the Entente, certain currents of public opinion make its task difficult. The government appears to wish to proceed rapidly with its decisions regarding the note and to endeavor to combine the safeguarding of the vital interests of the country with maintenance of the traditional friendship between Greece and the Entente, and hopes the latter will assist its efforts."

### NEWSPAPER SENSATION IN MONTREAL

Montreal, Jan. 3.—Somewhat of a sensation was caused in newspaper circles this morning when the following announcement appeared in the Montreal Daily Mail at the top of the editorial column:

"This will be the last issue of the Daily Mail under its present control, and the undersigned disclaim responsibility for the further publication of the paper and for anything appearing in it. The Evening News will not be issued again under its present ownership."

"The difficulties which render this course necessary had their inception in the unexpected and as yet unexplained action of some of the shareholders, who up to the time of his withdrawal, professed complete satisfaction with their policies of civic reform and independent views on public affairs. The situation culminated a few days ago in a request made for the power of sale of the property to parties whose names were not disclosed."

The announcement goes on to state that the shareholders of the paper had refused to consider a sale until the tramways franchise matter was settled. Then, after citing the difficulties of conducting newspapers under war conditions, it says:

"The continuance involved a capital outlay which the company under the circumstances already alluded to was unable to furnish."

Mr. Hanson the Man.

Premier Clarke stated at noon that a Judge of Probate to succeed the late Judge Bliss would likely be appointed today. It is understood that the position will go to Mr. R. B. Hanson, and that either C. D. Richards or Gregory Feeney will succeed Mr. Hanson as registrar. Mr. Pinder, who now has some say in patronage matters, is in town today pressing the appointment of Messrs. Hanson and Richards.

Ignorance might be bliss if someone did not think it his duty to put us wise.

### SNOW PLOWS UNDER FIRE AT THE COUNCIL MEETING

**Ald. McLellan Says Plows Did Good Work Under The Circumstances--Council Decides to Accept Delivery of Motor-Truck and Chemical Engine.**

The City Council held another lengthy session last night. Various items of important business were transacted. Delivery of the motor-driven combination chemical-engine and hose-wagon, which has come in for much criticism lately, was accepted on the unanimous vote of the Council.

The new snowplows, which also came in for criticism lately, were again to the fore. Ald. Baxter made some pointed remarks to the effect that they were not very useful, and Ald. McLellan replied with a lengthy defence. The application of Supt. Davidson, of the Street Lighting plant, for an increase in salary from \$900 per year to \$1,200, was considered, and he was given an increase to \$1,020 per year.

Another matter discussed was the effort of the city to have Agricultural Society No. 34 live up to its agreement concerning the claim of the city upon the Exhibition property in this city. Ald. McLellan reported that the directors of the society had been approached in connection with the matter, but had given it no consideration and showed little intention of doing so.

Mayor Mitchell being before the Provincial Government on the matter of apportionment of the Patriotic Fund in 1917, Ald. Walker acted as chairman.

Auditor's Report.	
The auditor's report on expenditure for the month was passed as follows:	
Water .....	\$1,579.27
Sewerage .....	58.34
Sewerage construction .....	7.66
House connections .....	82.9
Roads and streets .....	1,230.57
Street Lighting .....	2,687
Fire .....	223.64
Administration of Justice .....	572.61
Contingent .....	442.85
Canada Temperance Act .....	32.93
Municipal Home .....	81.00
Market .....	10.09
Total .....	\$4,899.50

(Continued on page 5.)

### DEATH OF RASPUTIN HAS CAUSED QUITE A SENSATION IN RUSSIA

**Looks as if He Was Murdered by Young Aristocrats Connected With Royal Family---Deceased Exercised Great Influence Over the Czar.**

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The morning newspapers in their Petrograd despatches today feature stories of the reported death of Gregory Rasputin, the Russian monk, who it has been reported exercised a great influence over Emperor Nicholas. The reports of the death of Rasputin, which evidently are making a stir in Russia, not only on account of his personality, but owing to allegations that two persons of exalted rank and a well known former member of the Duma was concerned in his taking off.

The general assumption in the stories is that Rasputin was murdered, and some of the accounts say unqualifiedly that he was.

According to one story, two young aristocrats drove in an automobile the night of Friday-Saturday to a house on Korokhovaya street, where a man, assumed to have been Rasputin, entered the car, which then went to Yussupoff Palace, which is owned by the young Prince Yussupoff, heir to General Prince Yussupoff, aide to Emperor Nicholas.

Afterwards the police heard shots and cries coming from the palace garden. Hastening there to make inquiries, they saw blood on the snow in the garden and were shown the carcass of a dog which they were told had been shot because it had gone mad.

#### Body Was Wrapped in Fur Coat and Thrown Into the River, Where Divers Recovered It

Meantime, according to another version, the body of a murdered man, wrapped in a fur coat, was placed in an automobile. The aristocrats took seats in the car and drove to Petrosky island, in the Neva.

Investigation Saturday and Sunday led to the discovery of a freshly made hole in the ice, traces of blood and many footprints near by. Divers descended in the river and found the body of Rasputin.

The names of the persons suspected of being connected with the alleged murder are not printed, but it is stated that young Prince Yussupoff, after the events of the week end, quit Petrograd for his Crimean estates, but subsequently returned to the capital. Young Yussupoff is related to the Imperial family by his marriage in 1914 to Irene, daughter of Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovitch and the Grand Duchess Xenia, sister of Emperor Nicholas.

Rasputin's influence at court was severely reprobated by Prof. Paul N. Milukoff, leader of the constitutional democrats, in a famous speech in the Duma in November.

#### ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

PARIS, Jan. 3.—"The artillery was rather active north and south of the Somme in the regions of Rouvrop and Verdun, around Dead Man Hill and Beponvaux, and also in the Champagne," says today's communication from the War Office. "Our patrols were very active and brought in prisoners."

#### NO COAL FOR NORWAY.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—Norwegian newspapers, as quoted in an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen, say the British government has prohibited the exportation of coal to Norway because of the unsatisfactory manner in which certain obligations were fulfilled by Norway.

#### GERMAN OFFICIAL REPORT.

BERLIN, Jan. 3 (via Sayville).—Artillery activity of a lively sort in the Meuse sector of the Franco-Belgian front, and strong attacks by the Russo-Roumanian forces on the Moldavian front are reported in today's army headquarters statement.

#### TWO STEAMERS SUNK.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—Lloyds Shipping Agency announces that the British steamer Holly Branch, of 3,568 tons, and the Norwegian steamer Erica have been sunk.