

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
In order to ensure changes being made in advertisements copy must reach office not later than nine a.m. on the day of publication.

The Daily Mail

THE WEATHER.
Maritime — Strong north and northwest winds, fair, not much change in temperature.

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BULGARS WILL MAKE AN EFFORT TO EXPEL THE ALLIES FROM SALONIKI; RUSSIANS REPORT SUCCESS AGAINST AUSTRIANS

NOT MUCH CHANGE IN THE WAR SITUATION

Lord Cecil says the British Cabinet is united in the main lines of its Policy--Hun Hope to Reach Saloniki by January 15
British Correspondents scoff at the Reports of an Early German Offensive in that Region.

London, Dec. 23--Hartmann's-Weilerkopf, the summit of which the Germans claim to have retaken, together with 1500 prisoners, is the only point of first-class activity on the western front, while on the eastern fighting lines there has been little evidence of any disturbance in the Christmas lull in the last twenty-four hours.

There have been some clashes in Galicia, with minor successes on both sides, and the Russian forces in Persia are fighting twenty-five miles from Teheran, but the Balkan theatre maintains a place of first importance in the war news, despite the fact that there has been no severe fighting for several days.

The Greek public's uneasiness over the possibility of an early extension of Germanic operations to Greek territory increases hourly and the Greek domestic situation is so ruffled that it is stated that parliament, as soon as it meets, will declare martial law in order to muzzle the opposition press, which has been mercilessly attacking the government.

A Reuter despatch from Athens says that Germany is reported to have informed Greece that she hopes to reach Saloniki by January 15, promising, at the same time, to evacuate Greek territory as soon as the task is finished.

Greek correspondents of the Paris newspapers declare that the Teutonic allies have decided that Austria shall have the initiative in all the offensive movements in the Balkans, and reports are also published in Paris that the Austrians are actually marching on Saloniki.

The British correspondents at Saloniki scoff at the reports of an early German offensive, however, declaring their conviction that the lull is likely to persist for some time longer. The Saloniki correspondent of Reuters Telegram Company says that military men there believe the Austro-Germans and Bulgarians will establish a screen parallel to the Greek border, taking up strong positions in the Macedonian defiles, there to await an offensive movement by the Entente Powers.

Geneva despatches speak convincingly of German preparations for an attack on the Suez Canal, which is now timed at the end of January, but the British press continues to declare the defensive preparations will make an attack on that territory folly.

The Turkish official communication today refers to the "northern front," this being the first reference of the kind.

From Russia come reports that the Germans and Russians alike are making energetic preparations for new operations early in the new year. The Russian military organ, The Russky Invalid, says:

"The winter campaign on the Russian front will not be continued to war of position. Important events are likely very soon. The Russians and Germans know that the great war will be decided on the Russian front, for no such successes elsewhere can have a preponderant effect until a result has been obtained here."

London, Dec. 23--The most important speeches at the closing session of the House of Commons, before the House adjourned tonight for the Christmas recess, were made by Lord Robert Cecil, under secretary for foreign affairs; Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade, and A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty.

Lord Robert Cecil's speech was in the nature of a general defence of the foreign office. He denied rumors of dissensions in the cabinet, of dissensions among the Allies and of German influence in the foreign office. "Until the resignation of one or more members of the cabinet," he said, "everyone is bound to accept view that it is united on the main lines of its policy. As to the unity of the Allies, they have carried on the war in a manner which, if one considers history, is a really unexampled performance of unity."

MARITIME CIRCUIT WILL BE TO THE FORE SOON

There probably will be something doing in the near future with regard to the organization of Maritime Harness Racing Circuit for 1916. As announced by The Mail in the autumn a number of horsemen throughout the provinces began the organization at that time with the agreement that they would meet during the Christmas season and complete the details. This part of the program will probably be carried.

Within the week there has been an attempt in another quarter to sound the feeling of the racing public in this weather and to organize a counter movement for a circuit. This attempt has given rise to the remark, which is perfectly obvious, that those persons who fell down on a two day meet last autumn are trying to swing a Maritime Circuit.

FAST HORSE FOR ST. JOHN.

William Sherron, of Fredericton, horse trainer and driver, who visited the Chicago horsesale, purchased Epens, a promising three-year-old stallion for a horseman of St. John. When two years old Epens made a record of 2.16, and as a three-year-old went on a trial mile in 2.11, the half mile in 1.02 and a quarter in 30.34 seconds. Epens is a pacer by Tekmar, 2.22, sire of Gammar, 2.07; Margaret Nave, 2.11; Mar Boy, 2.14; Jeanet Wilkes, 2.15; King Pilot, 2.16; and others. Dam by Gavatta, which has a four-year-old record of 2.11, by Milroy, sire of Robert Milroy, 2.06; Lady Thistle, 2.11; and twenty-two others in the 2.30 class. Epens is said to be a very handsome brown colt, 15.3, foaled in 1912.

SEMI-ANNUAL VISITOR.

Dr. C. R. Fletcher, who enjoys a large dental practice in New York, arrived here Wednesday to spend Christmas with his mother, Mrs. Mary C. Fletcher, and his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Macnutt. Dr. Fletcher has been a semi-annual visitor to Fredericton for the long period of twenty-five years. His mother is now ninety-one years of age and is in the enjoyment of good health. The doctor is a native of Halifax and saw active service with a contingent from that city during the Northwest Rebellion.

MR. CARVELL PUTS ONE OVER ON B. F. SMITH

Woodstock, N. B., Dec. 23--As the result of F. B. Carvell's visit to Ottawa, and his representations to the acting premier, Sir George E. Foster, the farmers of Carleton and Victoria counties will be at least \$30,000 richer.

Mr. Carvell's open letter to his constituents, which explains the matter, follows:

To the Farmers of the Counties of Victoria and Carleton.

Dear Sirs,—About a month ago, after learning the price which the government was paying Mr. B. F. Smith for 15,000 tons of hay, to be supplied to and paid for by the British government, I wrote you a letter giving you the facts of the case, and telling you that you were entitled to \$15 for your loose hay in your barns.

I am not going over the nature of the replies made by Mr. Smith, nor the manner in which he drew me away from the main issue, and discuss matters having no relation to the price of your hay, but I want to tell you that Monday and Tuesday of this week I discussed the matter from every standpoint, with Sir George E. Foster, the acting premier of Canada, at his office in Ottawa, and with Dr. Rudick, the official of the agricultural department having to do with hay purchases.

I learned there that the Atlantic Hay Company, which is really Mr. Smith, has a contract for 15,000 tons of hay at \$23 per ton delivered in St. John, compressed, and that he gave them the impression, from the beginning, that he was paying \$15 for your hay.

I pointed out to Sir George that as an embargo has been placed against the exportation of hay from Canada to the United States, the farmers of this province had only one possible market, namely, the Atlantic Hay Company, and you would be compelled to accept the price which they would be willing to offer.

After my first letter, as you know, the price went up a dollar per ton, which meant \$16,000 to you. I am now happy to inform you that Mr. Smith will be notified from Ottawa before this letter is made public, that he must either pay \$15 for your hay loose, or a part of the contract will be given to other men who will be only too happy to pay you that price.

This means a Christmas present to you of \$30,000, in addition to the \$15,000 already secured.

Mr. Smith had been notified, and I understand, has gone to Ottawa. He must make his choice, and make it quickly, and just here I want to tell you that even at that price, you are getting \$1.50 less per ton for your hay than the farmers of Quebec are receiving for theirs of the same quality, where the hay is being purchased direct by the government and compressed by them.

Sir George also decided that this price must be retroactive, and Smith will be compelled to pay \$15 per ton to those of you from whom he has bought hay for \$12, \$12.50 and \$13 per ton, the same as he pays in the future, and any of you who have been foolish enough to sell at the lesser price, can receive the difference by pressing your claims.

This arrangement in no way disposes of an investigation into the scandals of last year. My object this year was not to obtain a scandal, but secure you a fair price for your product.

I learned while in Ottawa all the facts regarding last year's business, and find that Smith made less than \$6 on every ton of hay purchased from you for war contracts, during the past season, and had I not interfered he would have made at least \$5 on each ton during the present year.

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London, Dec. 24--Many isolated engagements on various fronts have upset the predictions of a universal Christmas truce. Nothing of great importance however has developed. From Galicia the Russians report success in an action against the Austrians at Trembowla where there has been an indication recently that the Austrians and Germans are seeking to strengthen their lines.

ALLIES READY FOR BULGARS

London, Dec. 24--Special despatches to the London papers state that the Bulgarians are preparing to invade Greek territory in an effort to expel the Allies from Saloniki. The entente forces are engaged in strengthening their positions and express confidence that there is no immediate prospect of an offensive against them.

RUSSIANS ON THE MOVE

London, Dec. 24--Although no activity is reported on the Mesopotamian front the Russians are advancing steadily in Persia in an effort to link their forces with those of British Allies.

FRENCH HOLDING GROUND

London, Dec. 24--On Hartmann's-Weilerkopf the French claim to have maintained their gains on a front of one mile but their left has compelled to fall back.

The Germans assert that they have retaken a lost ridge with the capture of a large number of prisoners.

GERMANY IS BEATEN

London, Dec. 24--"As far as commerce is concerned Germany is a beaten nation, and it is for us to see it does not recover," Walter Runciman, president of trade, told the house of commons this afternoon in reviewing the steps taken by the board for the reorganization of British industries after the war.

"There is scarcely a department of public life," Mr. Runciman said, "about which we have not been thinking what likely will happen when the war is over and how best to prepare for future contingencies."

"Nothing in commercial life will start off when the war is over in the same condition as when the war began and in every one relationship with the Central Powers, Zollverein is bound to conflict with our interests."

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES ON THE C. P. R.

(Special to The Mail.)

Montreal, Dec. 24--According to a circular just issued, H. S. Carmichael is appointed passenger and freight manager of the new Canadian Pacific ocean services, with headquarters at Waterloo Place, London, England.

It is understood that Captain J. T. Walsh, R.N.R., has been appointed assistant manager of the new company, while Mr. W. G. Annable has been appointed general passenger agent of the Atlantic services and Mr. agent of the Pacific services, all with headquarters at Montreal.

Captain Walsh, before joining the Canadian Pacific Railway as marine superintendent, had distinguished service under the Elder Dempster Company in West Africa, where, in addition to his other duties, he raised and commanded a volunteer force during the revolution of 1898, receiving the West African Medal. He was provincial member of the Legislative Council there in 1900 and was mentioned in dispatches by Col. Wilcocks for embarkation services during the South African war.