

THE SITUATION IN THE EASTERN WAR SPHERE IS NONE TOO GOOD FROM ALLIES STANDPOINT

Russian Progress Appears to be Slow and Enormous Army Unable to Make Any Headway--May Evacuate Warsaw

All German Efforts Concentrated For an Attack on England--England Having Difficulty in Disposing of Belgian Refugees--Reports Say Germans Have "Big Surprise For English" Which is Thought to be New Kind of Big Guns For Ships

(Advocate Special Wire)
Montreal, Oct. 14—Owing to a very strict censorship there is little news of importance from Belgium. Recent developments there will, it is thought, bring the battle of Aisne to a conclusion, as the German troops will be needed nearer the coast where all efforts are to be concentrated in an attempt to attack England.

Refugees by scores of thousands are arriving in England from Belgium, and great difficulty is being found in satisfactorily disposing of them.

Unofficial reports declare that preparations are being rapidly pushed on for the defence of Ostend.

The Belgian army has been re-organized, but what assistance has been sent from England is not known.

Montreal, Oct. 14—Private reports from various places refer to the "big surprise" the Germans have for the English. This is believed to be some new kind of guns which their big ships are being fitted with. The Kiel canal is closed while they experiment with them.

Montreal, Oct. 14—The outbreak in South Africa is not considered serious. Col. Maritz, the instigator, has little influence and Botha will have no difficulty in dealing with him.

Russian progress appears to be very slow, and her enormous army of which so much was expected, seems unable to make any headway. They may decide to evacuate Warsaw. The situation in the Eastern war sphere generally is none too good from the Allies' standpoint.

Fredericton, Oct. 14—A report here this morning says "Portugal has declared war on Germany."

Ottawa, Oct. 13—While offers for enlistment are pouring into the militia department to an extent which indicates that it will be easy to raise in a short order the second Canadian contingent of 20,000, no conclusive arrangements for the recruiting have yet been made.

It is intimated today as possible that this will not be proceeded with until the minister of militia has an opportunity of conferring with the War Office as to the character of the force which is desired. Colonel Hughes is due on the other side tomorrow.

Probably it will be the end of the week before definite advice are received. The assumption, however, is that the new force will be comprised more particularly of mounted rifles and infantry rather than one comprising all units such as cavalry, artillery and infantry.

With the 33,000 who have gone the 22,000 now to be raised and the allowances for wastage, etc., which are necessary, Canada, should the war be prolonged may ultimately have 100,000 men in the field.

The militia department is already making arrangement for the supply of the necessary equipment for the expeditionary force. There is a great influx of contractors and manufacturers here and orders are being placed to ensure the speedy fitting out of the 22,000 immediately on their being recruited.

London, Oct. 14, 1.41 a. m.—The following despatch dated Monday, has been received by the Central News from Ostend:

"It is reported that a heavy engagement occurred today near Thourout, (a Belgian town 12 miles southwest of Bruges.) The operations around Ghent have opened favorably for the allies. The Germans asked for an armistice to enable them to bury their dead but the request was refused.

"Advancing confidently against what they imagined to be the remnants of a retreating Belgian army a German column was ambushed by a force south of Ghent. The German soldiers were moved down in swaths and a bayonet charge completed their rout. Some six hundred dead were left on the field while the allies' loss was practically nothing."

Paris, Oct. 14, 3.01 a. m.—The following official communication given out Tuesday night in Petrograd, has been received here by the Havas Agency:

"Operations continue to develop on our front, which extends from the region of Warsaw, along the Rivers Vistula and San, to Przemyśl, and further south as far as the River Dniester.

"The situation in Eastern Prussia remains unchanged."

London, Oct. 14, 1.55 a. m.—An Ostend despatch to the Daily Telegraph, in explanation of the German occupation of Ghent, says that the country thereabout is so flat that it would baffle the genius of a Napoleon to find a good position for troops.

"I never saw a more hopeless country from a military point of view," says the correspondent. "It would be difficult enough to defend with an equal force, and in view of the great number of Germans pushing forward, the allies had no choice but to retire."

All communication with Ghent has been cut.

Havre, via Paris, Oct. 14, 3.03 a. m.—The steamer Peter De Coninck arrived last evening from Ostend, bearing the members of the Belgian government.

The Belgians were received by a French official with military honors. They were given an enthusiastic reception by the crowds on their arrival.

London, Oct. 14, 5.10 a. m.—The Petrograd correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company says it is officially announced by the commander of the Russian naval forces in the Baltic that two German submarines were destroyed during the attack on the Russian cruiser Pallada.

London, Oct. 14—In itself the action of Col. Maritz is not regarded as of serious importance. His following is small and his force is situated in South West Africa. Maritz has always been known to be irreconcilable and is certain to seize any opportunity of making trouble. It is assumed that Premier Botha will lose no time in having him arrested.

A man well acquainted with South African affairs told your correspondent today that General Botha was probably very glad of the opportunity to proclaim martial law, as it would enable him to take measures which ordinary law would not permit.

"It is a mistake to judge South African affairs by English standards," said this authority, "their methods are much more rough and ready, and Botha will lose no time in taking measures to squelch Maritz and his followers.

"Hertzog, leader of the Dutch

Montreal, Oct. 13—Germany now seems determined to live up to the motto of "now or never," and is preparing to push her offensive movements in Belgium to the limit.

It is anticipated that the German fleet will now come out of its hiding and attempt to assist the army in making attacks on the Belgian coast line, with Ostend as the principal object.

The war staff realizes that Germany cannot stand a long war, and the utmost must be made of her successes as they are gained.

Montreal, Oct. 13—Nothing

Montreal, Oct. 13—The situation in Eastern Germany is not as satisfactory as it might be. Russia is not maintaining her offensive movement as vigorously as the war hoped. A decisive battle must come soon. If Russia wins, Germany must ease up considerably in Belgium and France, but if Russia is defeated, the German offensive in the West can be vastly increased.

Montreal, Oct. 13—It is reported that the Provincial Governments have, at the request of the Imperial authorities, withdrawn the regulation that mine props cut from crown lands must be manufactured in this country. Large shipments are expected to be made.

Montreal, Oct. 13—The Belgian capital will be temporarily moved to France, so that the government may have a free hand. Quarters are being prepared at Havre.

Montreal, Oct. 13—Several changes in the Dominion Cabinet are foreshadowed. Honorables Pelletier, Nantel and Roche, who are all in ill-health, are likely to retire at an early date.

Paris, Oct. 12, 11.19 p. m.—The following official statement was given out tonight:

"There is nothing in particular to report.

"Violent attacks have occurred along the front. We have gained ground at some points, and we have not lost any at any place."

London, Oct. 12, 9.25 p. m.—The finger of the censor having twisted the fortnight on all sources of news from Belgium, just now perhaps the most potentially important scene of the fighting in the great war, the British people were forced to content themselves today with the official communication from Paris, and even a close analysis of this showed no marked change in the situation favoring either side.

From the east came tidings of a decided reversal in form the despatches both from Vienna and Petrograd indicating that the Austrian army at Przemyśl so often reported surrounded, hopelessly out-classed and on the verge of surrender, had, with the aid of reinforcements, turned on the Russians and forced them to retreat.

The first news of this claim emanated during the morning from the Austrian capital. It was followed later in the day by what purports to be a Petrograd admission of the abandonment.

opposition in the House, has nothing to do with the affair, and one result of Maritz will be to drive waverers into Botha's ranks and give a great stimulus to recruiting. Botha can get 10,000 men to Uppington, where Maritz is, in a very short time, and, if I do not mistake the Boers of the Black Veldt, they will not only sympathize with Maritz, but will give him the shortest shrift."

THE INTERNED SOLDIERS

The Hague, via London, Oct. 13—The total number of interned Belgian and English soldiers en route to northern Holland is estimated at 20,000 exclusive of the wounded who are being treated there. The number of wounded has not yet been ascertained. Other soldiers have been interned but their number is still unreported. The English soldiers have been provided with a special depot at Groningen.

that has transpired regarding preparations made for the defense of Ostend has been allowed out, but large forces of Belgians and British are on the spot.

Moreover, if any battleships could be spared, their big guns, which have an effective range of ten miles, could shoot over the city and help keep the enemy from approaching. These guns are as powerful as the German siege guns with a longer range.

Montreal, Oct. 13—The Canadian contingent, now in England, has been settled in four camps on Salisbury Plain, and is in fine form.

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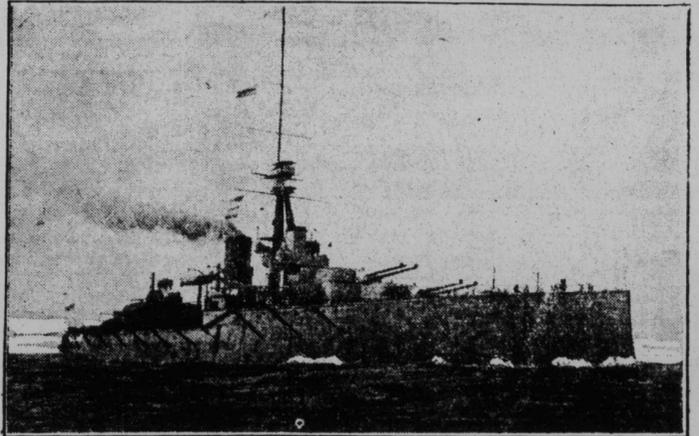
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H. M. S. THUNDERER, a battleship of 22,500 tons carrying very heavy guns

Canadian Patriotic Fund Meeting Friday Evening

A Good Representation of Citizens and Clergy Present--Committees and Sub-Committees Appointed--Will Meet Again Friday Evening, October 16th.

The Canadian Patriotic Fund public meeting, adjourned from October 1st, was held in the Town Hall Friday night, Mayor Morrissey presiding. The attendance was slightly larger than at the previous meeting, and organization was completed.

The chairman appointed the following nominating committee—Customs Collector W. A. Park, J. D. Creaghan and Joseph J. Ander.

This committee nominated following officers: Pres.—Mayor C. J. Morrissey; 1st V. P.—Lieut. Col. R. L. Maltby; 2nd V. P.—Howard Williston; Sec.—H. H. Stuart; Treas.—W. J. Jardine; Executive Committee—E. A. McCurdy, David J. Buckley, David Ritchie, J. R. Lawlor and E. H. Sinclair with power to add to its members.

Report was adopted on motion of Revs. P. W. Dixon and W. J. Bate.

The Mayor said that the above committee and officers were to direct the work, and that Finance and Relief Committees were needed to superintend collections and investigate claims.

J. D. Creaghan thought that the Executive should name those committees and report to next meeting.

Col. Maltby wanted the matter left entirely in the hands of the Executive Committee. Too many committees would be inconvenient.

The Mayor wanted the committees appointed at this meeting.

W. A. Park, seconded by H. Williston, moved that the Executive Committee be authorized to appoint a Finance and a Relief Committee and proceed at once to arrange for collections, etc.

Carried.

Rev. Mr. Bate presented name of Mrs. White of Millerton, wife of a British reservist as a claimant on the Patriotic fund. She had received \$17.10 as the first month's instalment from the British government.

On motion of J. D. Creaghan and W. A. Park, all the officers were added to the Executive committee.

Following sub-committees were appointed by the Executive: Finance—W. A. Park, J. D. Creaghan and E. A. McCurdy; Relief—Col. R. L. Maltby, Revs. S. J. MacArthur, P. W. Dixon, Wm. Harrison, W. J. Bate and M. S. Richardson and the resident Chaplain of the Salvation Army.

On motion of R. A. N. Jarvis and H. H. Stuart, the above nominations were ratified.

To W. A. Park the Chairman explained that the Relief Committee were to investigate claims and for-

ward names to Central Committee. The Finance Committee were to arrange ways and means of collecting.

The Mayor reported having received \$60 from the local Syrian colony for the Patriotic Fund.

Rev. Father Dixon thought that if the Relief Committee were to deal with Millerton and other cases, it should have members from outside of Newcastle. If not including such members, it should deal only with local cases and let other towns and parishes organize as Newcastle. Meetings should be held in each town and parish. The amount that could be secured from Newcastle would be limited. Tag Day had already yielded about \$400. Next week's concert might yield some \$150. Collections should be made all over the county. There should not be too many committees and not too much formality. The principal thing was to get the money needed.

H. H. Stuart thought that the question of outside applicants for relief would soon settle itself. Each parish would soon have an organization of its own similar to those of Newcastle and Chatham. Till then any cases that came under the notice of Newcastle's committee could easily be reported along with our local claimants.

J. D. Creaghan agreed that what Rev. Father Dixon desired would soon be effected. Each parish would be organized. The County Council of Estoupeville had insured its citizens going to the front, which was a good idea. These things would soon regulate themselves. Let us go to work and send all the money we can to headquarters. It will be properly distributed.

J. R. Lawlor said that a meeting of the Northumberland County Council would be held about Oct. 21 or 22 to consider a County contribution.

Col. Maltby said that after this Council meeting the parishes would likely be organized by the Councilors of each parish.

The Mayor said it was Newcastle's duty to report Mrs. White and every claimant they knew of, and send all the money they could to central committee.

Meeting adjourned to assemble again next Friday night.

CHOLERA IN AUSTRIA

Paris, Oct. 12 (6.42 p. m.)—A Havas Agency despatch from Venice says that twenty cases of cholera were reported in Austria on October 8.

SHOOTING ACCIDENT THANKSGIVING DAY

Jos. Driscoll Accidentally Shoots Himself Through Right Foot.

Joseph Driscoll, the popular clerk at Durick's pharmacy, while on a shooting trip on Monday in company with Harold Hicks and Wm. Thompson, had the misfortune to shoot himself through the sole of the right foot, the bullet, a 44-40, passing through foot and half an inch of sole leather making a sore and nasty wound in the foot.

The accident took place when about six miles out back of Chaplin Island Road, about four o'clock in the afternoon. The unfortunate young man was immediately driven to town and the assistance of Dr. Desmond summoned, who dressed the wound that evening.

The ball passed through the foot between the first and second toes of the right foot about an inch from the base of the toes, and if no bones are broken, all other things considered, Dr. Driscoll will be able to be about again shortly.

Mr. Driscoll's many friends regret to hear of his accident. It was his intention of going back to St. John in a couple of weeks where he has opened up a drug business under his own name. While he will be much missed here, his many friends wish him an early recovery and success in his new venture.

OPENING OF NEW DOUGLASTOWN HALL

One of the greatest events in the history of the thriving town of Douglastown will be the opening of the Associated Lodges Hall, on Friday evening next, 16th instant.

The main feature of the evening's celebration will be a grand ball in the new building from 8 o'clock till 3. The boat will make a special trip leaving Chatham at 7.30 and after calling at Douglastown proceeding to Newcastle which place she will leave on her return trip about 8.15. The boat will return to Newcastle and Chatham after the ball. Supper will be served in the hall at midnight, and the McEachern and Goulet orchestras and the Douglastown Brass Band will be present during the evening.

The hall, which is large and well planned and thoroughly up to date, has been built by Mr. Ernest Hutchinson at a cost of from \$19,000 to \$22,000, and will be managed by trustees for the convenience of the public. Standing in the centre of the village substantially built of brick, and tastefully decorated, the building would be a credit to any town.

Besides an assembly hall on the ground floor, about 32x60 feet, the hall contains upstairs several snugly furnished lodge rooms, kitchen, etc., and has water on the premises.

The public opening will be a grand affair, and will doubtless be attended by a very large number.