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PROBS—Winds, becoming strong easterly; snow and rain by evening.

Senate Reading Room
May 15—2177

BRITISH HEAVY BOMBS SURPASS KRUPP PECEGS

New Howitzers Used With Great Success in Capture of Brickyard.

BLEW HOUSE IN AIR

Storming Columns Captured Position With Little Loss, and Won Next Day.

Canadian Press Despatch.
LONDON, Feb. 12, 7:35 p.m.—The British army in France is now using heavy howitzers, which according to a report from the official "eye-witness" states, were used in successful attacks on the German positions in the brickyard south of La Bassée Canal a week ago tonight.

"Our heavy howitzers took part in this bombardment, their fire being directed on the railway triangle," the "eye-witness" says. "The boom of these pieces and the detonations of their shells were audible twenty miles above the zone of the other artillery, while those close at hand the shrieking of the great projectiles as they fell, were most impressive, as were the volumes of smoke and debris thrown up. The effect of the lyddite shells was truly terrific, one house being blown bodily into the air, and as they burst among the brick stacks they created great havoc among the enemy."

Strong Position Taken.
The assault was launched against a strong position or "keep" among the stacks of the railway triangle. Our storming columns rushed the work from three sides at once and captured it with very little loss, as prisoners afterwards stated, the noise of the bursting shells was so great and the clouds of smoke were so thick that they did not observe our men advancing until too late. At the same time trenches to

FRENCH CAPTURED COMMANDING HILL

Important Position in Vosges Taken From Germans in Snowstorm.

DASH WAS BRILLIANT

German Attack Repulsed in Lorraine—Artillery and Grenade Duels Elsewhere.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
PARIS, Feb. 12.—Active German attacks with infantry appear to have been transferred to the Vosges, where the French are attacking the enemy with artillery and hand grenades duels elsewhere.

DISABLED PRISONERS FREED BY GERMAN

Hundred and Forty-Six Britons Exchanged for Hundred and Seven Teutons.

Canadian Press Despatch.
BRITAIN, Feb. 12.—The first exchange of disabled prisoners of war under the plan of Pope Benedict were announced today by the British command. One hundred and forty-six British prisoners unfit for further service, will leave Germany Feb. 16 and Great Britain will release 107 Germans. The exchanges apparently are not on a numerical basis, but all those who are disabled will fall within the scope of the order eventually.

USSIA WILL RAISE BIG LOAN IN LONDON

Fifty Million Dollars in Treasury Bills to Go on Market.

Canadian Press Despatch.
LONDON, Feb. 12.—The Russian Government will issue \$50,000,000 treasury bills in London, with the consent of the British Government. The bills will be offered on Feb. 13 at a fixed price of 99, and will be payable in one year.

SIR JOHN JELlicoe DECORATED BY KING

Canadian Press Despatch.
LONDON, Feb. 12, (6:15 p.m.).—King George today conferred the grand cross of the Order of the Bath on Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, commander of the British home fleet.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE COMPLETELY FAILS

Campaign in Poland Finally Breaks Down, Paris Officially Chronicles.

LOSS UNPRECEDENTED

Forty Thousand Killed in Last Attacks Thru Cold and Dense Formations.

Canadian Press Despatch.
PARIS, Feb. 12.—An official statement given out at the war office today announced the complete failure of the German offensive in Poland. The statement followed the failure of recent attacks by the Germans in Poland appears to be complete. The losses of the Germans are unprecedented. It is reported that they exceeded 40,000 dead.

TYPHUS AND SMALLPOX SPREAD THRU AUSTRIA

Vienna in Grip of Epidemic and Only Small Percentage of People Vaccinated.

Canadian Press Despatch.
VIENNA, Feb. 12.—(Via London, Feb. 12, 12:45 a.m.)—An official Austrian report received here shows that typhus and smallpox are spreading in Austria during the first week of February.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY HIT HARD BY WAR TAX

Means Loss of Over a Million Dollars Yearly, But All Must Bear Burden.

Canadian Press Despatch.
MONTREAL, Feb. 12.—J. Chamberlain, president of the G.T.R., says the war tax will mean about \$1,000,000 a year from the G.T.R. He figures that the tax on waybills and pay envelopes and coal, 7 1/2 per cent, and "valorum" on coal, the government between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 per annum. The G.T.R. has about 1,500,000 tons of coal and about 500,000 tons of pay envelopes.

Lengthening Days and Strong Light Show Hat Shabbiness

The time of year has arrived when all self-respecting dressers must give considerable heed to their headwear. At Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, this trend of man's mind has met in with an elaborate force, for hundreds have been eagerly looking over the advance shipment of spring hats from Henry Heath of London, England. This firm are the makers of the King's hats, and recognized as the foremost hatmakers in the world.

English Girls in "The Prince of Pilsen"

No less than twelve of the members of the beautiful "The Prince of Pilsen," which comes here to the Princess Theatre next week, were brought over from England for the revival of the famous musical comedy this season.

KASER LINES AUSTRIANS TO BATTLE ALONE

Germans Hurry Up All Spare Troops to Defend East Prussia.

RUSSIANS ON DEFENSIVE

Grand Duke Does Not Venture to Fight in Mazurian Lake Region.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
By a correspondent of The London Post and Toronto World.
PETROGRAD, Feb. 12.—The official announcement that the Russians were retreating in East Prussia has come upon the public here as an unpleasant surprise, but nothing more. It is impossible, for greatly inferior numbers, to the Germans on their own ground, and the Russians are repeating their old manoeuvres of choosing a position for defence at home. After all, it is not miles, but men which separate the Russian forces from their ultimate goal, Berlin, and the tactics which will enable the largest number of Germans to be killed at the minimum cost to themselves are the only sure means for the nation that has been preparing for decades. The entire strategic front on this side reveals itself now into the centre extending between the lower and upper reaches of the Vistula and two wings, the Russian right reaching away northwards from the lower Vistula, stretching away along the Carpathians. The centre has been quiet for several days, with the exception of some artillery duelling and the usual commitments between opposing trenches. The Russian right wing has retained before the overwhelming new forces of Germans, and the Russian left continues to possess the advantage of the campaign in the Carpathians with success.

PRZEMYSL GARRISON FED ON HORSE FLESH

All Other Meats Consumed and Commandant Will Resort to Leather Rations.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
PETROGRAD, Feb. 12.—Austrian deserters from the fortress of Przemyśl state that the only meat rations now consist of preserved horse flesh prepared in the works within the fortress. The commandant says that he will not surrender Przemyśl until the soldiers are compelled to eat their own boots. He has 100 porters and drivers, mostly Poles and Jews, were ordered to leave the fortress owing to the lack of food. The Russians, out of pity, accepted the offer, but the commandant insisted on them leaving town. Finally the Russians, out of pity, accepted the offer, but the commandant insisted on them leaving town. Finally the Russians, out of pity, accepted the offer, but the commandant insisted on them leaving town.

FIGHT ON PURCHASE BILL NOW IN HOUSE

Administration Forces Begin Work on Compromise Bill.

CONCESSIONS SMALL

Proposal for Government to Engage in Shipping Not Favored.

Canadian Press Despatch.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The fight over the government ship purchase bill was shifted today from the senate to the house. In the senate the measure, blocked by determined Republican opposition, was displaced as unfinished business and a closure rule designed to forcibly terminate the filibuster was taken up.

Germans Unfit For War Are Forced Into Service

Consumptives and Schoolboys Not Exempt, As Medical Certificates and Letters Found on Dead Testify—Great Scarcity of Bread Causes Complaints

Canadian Press Despatch.
LONDON, Feb. 12.—The British eye-witness says that some of the prisoners captured lately have been of comparatively poor physique, and tells of findings in the pocket of a dead German two medical certificates stating that he was suffering from consumption. The certificates were accompanied by an application from the soldier's father, asking that the son be relieved from the necessity of going into active service.

Von Jagow Gets U.S. Note

BERLIN, Feb. 12, via London, Feb. 13, 1:10 a.m.—James W. Gerard, the American ambassador, called on Gottlieb Von Jagow, the German foreign secretary, at 6 o'clock this evening, and presented to him the American Government's note concerning the German sea war zone proclamation.

THREE PATS TO BACK U.S. NOTE TO BERLIN

Sweden, Norway, Denmark Decide to Lay Down Law to Germany.

WILEN AS TO BRITAIN

Believe Protest of President Wilson Over Use of Neutral Flag Sufficient.

Special to The Toronto World.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Sweden, Norway and Denmark will back up the United States note to Germany in a war zone decree. Before February 18 the three powers will communicate to the German Imperial Foreign Office notes regarding the violation of the use of neutral ensigns as fully as they can. It is their belief that the representations made by the United States cover the question of the use of neutral ensigns as fully as they can. It is their belief that the representations made by the United States cover the question of the use of neutral ensigns as fully as they can.

OSTEND RAILWAY STATION BURNED

HAVOC CAUSED AT OTHER POINTS

Graham-White, Noted Aviator, Fell Into Sea Off Nieuport and Was Rescued Under Heavy Fire from German Guns—British Had No Casualties and Only Two Machines Were Damaged—Full Extent of Havoc Is Not Known to British Admiralty.

Canadian Press Despatch.
LONDON, Feb. 12.—Aerial warfare was waged today on the largest scale in its history and under adverse circumstances from the standpoint of the weather. British airmen, buffeted banks of snow in the air, swept over cities of Northern Belgium held by Germans and dropped bombs on Ostend, Bruges and other places.

THREE MORE PATS AMONG WOUNDED

Privates Gargin, Toyne and Horton Are Admitted to Hospital.

FRENCH COMMONS DEBAR ABSINTHE

Bill Prohibiting Use of Noted Stimulant Passes Lower Chamber.

Canadian Press Despatch.
PARIS, Feb. 12.—(6:20 p.m.)—The chamber of deputies today adopted the bill prohibiting the sale of absinthe. Indemnités will be granted to manufacturers affected by the bill, and will be covered in a special act later. The bill also applies to Algeria and the colonies, and will be proposed for adoption by the protectorates. The measure now goes to the senate.

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VOL. XXXV.—No. 12,512

ON FOUR BELGIAN TOWNS

BRITISH AERIAL FLEET RAIDED 4 GERMAN BASES IN BELGIUM BOMBS CAUSED GREAT DAMAGE

Bruges, Ostend, Zeebrugge and Blankenberghe, Where Enemy Seeks To Establish Submarine Bases, Were Successfully Attacked by Squadron of Thirty-four Naval Aeroplanes, Which Flew Thru Dense Clouds of Snow—Raid Was on the Greatest Scale Since the War Began.

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Thirty-four aeroplanes and seaplanes of the British fleet took part in the operations and all of them later returned safely to their base without casualty to their drivers. Two of the machines were damaged. The raid was made in order to prevent the developments of submarine bases and establishments which might further endanger British warships and merchantmen.

DVD GREAT DAMAGE.
Altho no submarines were seen the British admiralty statement indicates that the raid had satisfactory results, for considerable damage is said to have been done to German positions, railway lines and railway stations. The Ostend station is reported to have been set on fire, and that at Blankenberghe to have been badly damaged. German mine sweeping vessels at Zeebrugge also came in for a hail of bombs but the damage done to them has not been stated.

GERMAN FIRE INEFFICIENT.
At various points the airmen were received by the Germans with firing from anti-aerial guns and rifles. None of the airmen is reported by the admiralty to have been wounded in these attacks. One of the British flyers fell into the sea while returning to his base after the raid was over and the aviator had a narrow escape from drowning. Fortunately for him a cruiser was nearby and picked him up and then towed his aeroplane into port.

SAMSON IN COMMAND.
Wing Commander Samson who previously had made several notable visits to enemy territory in an aeroplane was in chief command of the raiding squadron. He was assisted by Wing Commander Longmore and Squadron Commander Courtney, Ports and Rathorne.

During the raid warships bombarded the German positions along the coast. The British admiralty's statement on the raid is as follows:
OFFICIAL STATEMENT.
Thirty-four naval aeroplanes raided Bruges, Zeebrugge, Ostend and Blankenberghe, (all in Belgium), Claude Graham-White fell. He was rescued.

A description of the raid was given out by the official information bureau, as follows:
"The secretary of the admiralty makes the following announcement:
"During the last twenty-four hours combined aeroplane and seaplane operations have been carried out by the naval wing in Bruges, Zeebrugge, Blankenberghe and Ostend districts, with a view to preventing the development of submarine bases and establishments. Thirty-four naval aeroplanes and seaplanes took part.

OSTEND STATION BURNED.
"Great damage is reported to have been done to the Ostend railway station, which, according to present information has probably been burned to the ground. The railway station at Blankenberghe was damaged, and the railway lines were torn up in many places.
"Bombs were dropped on gun positions at Middlekerke and also on the power station and the German mine-sweeping vessels at Zeebrugge, but the damage done is unknown.
"During the attack the machines encountered heavy banks of mist. No submarines were seen.

GRAHAM-WHITE RESCUED.
"Flight Commander Graham-White fell into the sea off Nieuport and was rescued by a French vessel. Altho, machines were damaged.
"The seaplanes and aeroplanes were under command of Wing Commander Samson, assisted by Wing Commander Longmore and Squadron Commander Courtney and Rathorne.

LIKE FLOCK OF BIRDS.
Special Cable to The Toronto World.
THE EAST COAST, England, Feb. 12.—The aircraft left the English shores shortly after daylight and as they passed over the sea in a long procession they resembled a flock of huge sea birds. The aeroplanes were in charge of skilful and daring naval and military pilots and were beautifully handled. There was a thick, low-lying haze overhanging the sea close into the English shores, but on the high cliff the atmosphere was very clear and there was an extensive view across the water. When the squadron of machines started the pilots flew high in order to avoid the haze and they were steering in an easterly direction when lost to view. With the speed at which they were flying, the crossing would be made in about 20 minutes. The pilots are understood to be making a short stay in France prior to returning to England.

THREE MORE PATS AMONG WOUNDED

Privates Gargin, Toyne and Horton Are Admitted to Hospital.

FRENCH COMMONS DEBAR ABSINTHE

Bill Prohibiting Use of Noted Stimulant Passes Lower Chamber.

Canadian Press Despatch.
OTTAWA, Feb. 12.—The following casualties in the Canadian expeditionary force are announced by the militia department tonight:
Slightly wounded: Pte. William Gargin, P.P.C.L.L., admitted to hospital Feb. 3 suffering from gunshot wound in foot. Next of kin John Gargin, Windsor, N.S.
Wounded: Pte. James Joseph Toyne, P.P.C.L.L., admitted to hospital, gunshot wound in ankle. Next of kin Mrs. Toyne, Hornington, Lincoln, Eng.
Pte. Albert Horton, P.P.C.L.L., admitted to hospital, septic wound, foot. Next of kin Charles Horton, Canton, Portaway, Westham, Essex, Eng.
Pte. Sidney Jacobs, P.P.C.L.L., discharged from hospital to convalescent camp, Rouen, Feb. 5. Next of kin Mrs. Jacobs, 21 Aberdeen Gardens, Hampstead Heath, London, Eng.

Death: Lance-Corp. Thomas Gerard, Fifth Battalion at Bulford Hospital, Feb. 11, from spinal meningitis. Next of kin David Gerard, Minota, Man.

An amendment was offered making the prohibitive features of the bill apply also to alcohol and bitters, but it was withdrawn after the statement of a report by a special committee, and that propositions tending to the suppression of all alcoholic extracts were being considered.

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