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SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 16 1918—SIXTEEN PAGES.

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,611 TWO CENTS

GERMANS BRING UP BEST TROOPS TO OPPOSE CANADIANS

CRACK GERMAN SOLDIERS FACE CANADIAN LINE

Raids Established Presence of First Guards Regiment at Lens.
STRONG RESISTANCE
Enemy Fails to Check Impetuosity of Dominion's Men.

By W. A. Willison.
Canadian Army Headquarters in France, via London, Feb. 15.—On the eve of an historic dinner to commemorate the arrival of the first Canadian division in France, three years ago, the Canadians raided the enemy lines near Hill 70 and in front of Lens, capturing a total of ten prisoners and two machine guns. At approximately the same time, far south, at Hargicourt, other Canadians again crossed 1000 yards of No Man's Land, took 13 prisoners and two machine guns, destroyed four trench mortars, and bombed both the enemy's front and support lines.

At 6 o'clock this morning in front of Lens, Canadian troops, operating in two parties, gave the nervous enemy another decisive taste of Canadian mettle. The operations, which were covered by artillery, trench mortar and machine gun barrages, were carried out by two parties. On the left little opposition was encountered, the attackers capturing three prisoners and two machine guns. On the right the party headed up by close range machine gun fire, but succeeded in capturing one prisoner.

Crack German Troops.
These raids confirm the presence of crack German troops, opposite the Canadians, the prisoners taken belonging to the First Guards Regiment.
Late this morning Canadian headquarters was the scene of a dining ceremony, in which Belgium, honoring the Canadian corps, gave a striking appreciation of the value of Canadian services at Passchendaele and the historic combats in the salient. Fourteen Canadian officers were decorated by Gen. Sir H. S. Home, commanding the first army, with the Belgian Croix de Guerre. The same decorations have been awarded to six other officers and 137 non-commissioned officers and men.

WILL DRAFT BILL FOR CIVIL SERVICE

Sub-Committee of Cabinet Will Be Named to Consider Needed Legislation.

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—A sub-committee of the cabinet, which it is understood will include Hon. F. B. Carter, Hon. J. A. Calder and Hon. Martin Burrell, will be named by the government to consider the legislation to be introduced at the next session of parliament, placing the inside and outside service on practically the same basis.
A bill providing for the abolition of patronage and the introduction of the competitive merit systems will be drafted by the civil service commission, of which Hon. W. J. Keefe, former minister of the interior, is the chairman. This bill will then be considered by the sub-committee of the cabinet in conjunction with the commissioners.

No Wounded Soldiers Will Return Home Today

Trains Are Tied Up by Storms and Men Cannot Reach Toronto.
On account of heavy snow-storms in Quebec all trains are delayed, and no returned soldiers will arrive in Toronto today. A party may arrive on Sunday morning. The evening newspapers probably will publish a list of the names of the men and the time of their arrival.

YOUNG BENEDICTS SEEK PROTECTION

Rush to Dominion Police Headquarters to Avoid Arrest as Defaulters.

MUST CARRY PROOF

Five Men Taken Yesterday Were Put in Khaki at Camp.

Active work by the Dominion Police for the rounding up of Military Service Act defaulters began yesterday in Toronto on the streets. As a result five of the men gathered in by the Dominion Police officers on the streets were sent to Exhibition Camp and put into khaki during the afternoon.
In proof of the announcement that willful defaulters, even if not up to the physical standard, would if apprehended be put in the army, it is reported that one of the five defaulters put into khaki yesterday was a "D" (temporarily unfit) man.

The feature of the day at the headquarters of the Dominion Police at Yonge and Front streets was the rush of young married men who were anxious to safeguard themselves from arrest. The streets on suspicion of being class one men. This rush, kept in large proportion of the Dominion Police from patrolling the streets, as they had to stay in the office to deal with the cases of the men who applied voluntarily for advice.

GERMAN U-BOATS FEAR DEPTH BOMBS

Engineer from Kiel Says Germans Find it Hard to Muster Crews.
Geneva, Feb. 15.—A Swiss engineer, employed for the past ten months at the electrical works at Kiel and who has recently returned, informs the Associated Press that the Germans are making every effort to conceal their submarine losses, especially those from the navy, because of increased difficulty in mustering crews. He estimates the Germans lost 30 per cent of their submarines during the time that he was at Kiel.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER ON THE RAMPAGE

Ice Jam Causes Bad Floods in the Neighborhood of Cornwall.

Special to The Toronto World.
Cornwall, Feb. 15.—The ice jam in the St. Lawrence River at the mouth of the Grasse River is creating a disturbance all along the shores of both rivers, the backwater in the St. Lawrence extending to Richard's Landing and in the Grasse River to the dam at Massena Village. At the Polley Creek below the South Sault the water was six feet over the roadway, and the railing of the bridge was carried away while at Richard's Landing the dock was completely submerged, as were farms and roads in the vicinity.

Near the dam at Massena cellars of houses by the Grasse River are full up to the ground floors, and foot bridges have to be built by the residents within their homes out to higher ground.

The water conditions have not been so serious at this point for twenty years.

AMERICAN EXPORTS LICENSED TO GAIN SHIPS FOR TROOPS

All Foreign Trade of United States to Undergo Curtailment.

PRESIDENT DETERMINES

Allies Will Also Make Further Cuts in Trade Reduction.

Washington, Feb. 15.—All foreign trade of the United States—exports and imports—was put under license today by President Wilson as a part of a general program of the American and allied governments for releasing ships to transport troops and supplies to Europe.
The less essential exports and imports will be reduced to a minimum and materials regarded as necessary will be transported by the shortest route possible. The allies are working in close co-operation with the United States, and the trade routes of the world in many instances will be shifted to bring the most economical operation of tonnage.

The allies already have cut their foreign trade sharply, but will make further reductions as a part of the general plan. American representatives sitting in London will work with allied representatives in eliminating and rearranging ocean commerce to free ships for war service.

Licensing of American exports and imports will be handled through the war trade board, which has created a special contraband committee with final powers in deciding the country's foreign trade policies. The board, which already issues licenses for the large number of ocean-going ships which the government has exercised export and import control, will work with the state department, the department of commerce and the shipping board in arranging trade routes.

American ships taken out of the non-hazardous trades and out of transatlantic service will be replaced where it can be done by neutral tonnage, for which the government now is negotiating. This tonnage will be the most entirely, however, and licenses for goods regarded as non-essential will not be granted.

Control of exports and imports and of bunker coal by the United States and the allies gives them control of neutral tonnage, and officials predict that virtually all the ocean-going ships will be under the control of the American and allied services before many months.

WAR WITH RUSSIA NOT DEEMED OVER

Von Kuehlmann Still Considers Peace Not Made by Demobilization.

SITUATION NOT ALTERED

When Armistice Ends, Hostilities Must Revive, is German View.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—That Germany and Austria were still at war with Russia was the belief expressed by Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, at the concluding session of the recent peace conference at Brest-Litovsk.

Count Czernin, Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, expressed surprise that Russia had introduced the subject of the Ukraine at the peace conference.

"The relations between the Ukraine and the Petrograd government," said Count Czernin, "do not concern the central powers, and our conclusion of a peace with the Ukraine cannot be regarded as an unfriendly act toward the Petrograd government. We signed no treaty of alliance with the Ukraine, and only a treaty of peace which makes the Ukraine, so far as the central powers are concerned, merely a neutral state."

Replying to Trotsky's inquiry regarding the frontier south of Brest-Litovsk, Dr. von Kuehlmann said: "In drawing these frontiers, we attempted merely to find a middle course between racial divisions and the historical frontier."

FEDERAL FRANCHISE FOR WOMEN WILL BE GRANTED BY GOVERNMENT

Not Certain, However, That Necessary Legislation Will Be Introduced at the Coming Session.

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—That Canada's Union government intends to adhere to the platform in its program to extend the franchise to all women was officially intimated here today. It is not certain that the necessary legislation will be introduced at the session of parliament to be opened within a month, as there are certain difficulties to be cleared up in regard to the position of naturalized aliens, but the legislation will not be long delayed. At the recent general election the female relatives of soldiers voted. At the next general election all qualified women will have the right to cast a ballot. Canadian women in Ontario and the four western provinces have the privilege of voting in provincial contests. A Dominion franchise act is necessary to make woman suffrage universal throughout the Dominion. It is roughly estimated that from one to two million will be affected by the proposed legislation.

GERMANY TO CHANGE SUBMARINE POLICY

Important Naval Conference Called to Decide on Future of U-Boat.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—Frederich von Payer, imperial vice-chancellor, is expected to make an announcement before the next session of the reichstag of the government's future submarine policy, according to The Frankfurter Zeitung.
Much significance is found in the fact that the emperor has summoned Admiral Eduard von Capelle, minister of the navy, and Admiral von Holtzendorff, head of the naval general staff, to attend a conference being held at the main headquarters.

TO DIVIDE RUSSIA INTO FRAGMENTS

Germans Plan Setting Up of Weak Separate Governments.

WILL BE OWN JUDGES

Central Powers Will Determine Governments to Recognize.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—Germany was pictured as a peace-loving, non-aggressive nation in the speech of Dr. von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, at the concluding session of the recent peace conference at Brest-Litovsk. Dr. von Kuehlmann said the Russians should have no fear that Germany held any designs on Russia.

"I need only refer Mr. Trotsky (the Bolshevik foreign minister) to the permanent basis of the German policy, which, up to the time when war broke out, was to be based on the German people consisted in the preservation of good and friendly relations toward our eastern neighbors," Dr. von Kuehlmann said.

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"The relations between the Ukraine and the Petrograd government," said Count Czernin, "do not concern the central powers, and our conclusion of a peace with the Ukraine cannot be regarded as an unfriendly act toward the Petrograd government. We signed no treaty of alliance with the Ukraine, and only a treaty of peace which makes the Ukraine, so far as the central powers are concerned, merely a neutral state."

BRITISH MAKE GAIN NEAR JERUSALEM

General Allenby Advances Two Miles on Front of Six Miles.

LITTLE OPPOSITION MET

Success Extends on Both Sides of Village of Mukhmas.

London, Feb. 15.—The British forces in Palestine yesterday made an advance of two miles on a front of six miles, northwest of Jerusalem, the official office announced. The official statement says: "Yesterday we advanced our line on a front of six miles on each side of the village of Mukhmas, 11-12 miles northeast of Jerusalem."

Big Batch of Canadian Cars Are Returned From U. S.

Montreal, Feb. 15.—Altho 4455 Canadian freight cars have been returned from the United States railways at the request of the Canadian Railway War Board, General Secretary Neal of the war board states that there are 17,204 Canadian cars overdue from the United States. Over and above the reciprocal exchange between the two countries, the return of the 4455 cars is the largest single gain yet made in the campaign to recover Canada's cars from the foreign tangle.

WAR AIM SECURED UKRAINIAN PEACE

Czernin Promises General Peace if Austria Holds Out Longer.

CIVIL WAR IN RUSSIA

Bread From New Region Will Relieve Strangle of Blockade.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—A despatch received here from Vienna says that Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, replying to an address of the burgo-master, who welcomed Czernin on his return to the Austrian capital, said it was the war aim of their supreme war lord and emperor which had secured for them a peace with the Ukraine. This peace, he added, was in a double sense of the greatest significance.

"What has happened at Brest-Litovsk," Count Czernin said, "is not yet the end of the war, but it is the beginning of the end. Not only political diseases, but political recoveries are infectious, and peace will be so, too.

"Moreover, the strangling blockade of the entente has been broken by the signing of the peace with the Ukraine, with its bread. The difficulty of transport certainly still is considerable, but all necessary preparations have been made and, if conditions do not alter, an improvement will take place."

Count Czernin added that he had assurances that Austrian prisoners of war would be released. Civil war between Russia and the Ukraine might cause difficulties, but he was full of hope. In conclusion, Count Czernin said: "If ever confidence was justified, it is today. I am firmly convinced that we have only to hold out a little longer and an honorable general peace will be attained."

UNSINKABLE SHIP IS PROVING A MYTH

Naval Authorities Disagree With Chairman of Shipping Board.

INSIDE HONEYCOMBED

Held That There Would Be No Cargo Space Which is Indispensable.

Washington, Feb. 15.—The naval consulting board will meet here tomorrow to discuss among other subjects experiments made with the former Austrian steamer Lucia, designed to make her unsinkable. Vic-Chairman Saunders of the board announced last Saturday at New York that the effort had been successful by "honeycombing" the ship's interior with buoyant separate compartments.

The plan was proposed by William T. Donnelly and work has been in progress for several months on the ship, a 500-ton craft. Naval opinion generally is far as time when the practicability of the plan. Reduction of cargo space, time necessary for construction of this character and several other factors are regarded as working against general adoption for the transport service. Rear-Admirals Layton and Griffin, respectively chief constructor and chief engineer of the navy, are members of the consulting board and will be present tomorrow.

There appears to be no doubt that a virtually unsinkable ship could be built in any of several ways. Neither the allied powers nor the United States has as yet found, however, any scheme so far as known that would justify its general use. Time and space are vital elements in the war that must govern whatever is done.

CAPITAL AND LABOR TO OUTLINE POLICY

Have Each Selected Representatives to Sit on United States Commission.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Capital and labor have named the five representatives each was asked by the government to appoint to outline a basis of relations for the period of the war. The first sessions of their deliberations probably will be held next week, after each side has named one other man to represent the public, making a board of 12.

Announcement of the personnel of the men, who were chosen by the National Council for Industrial Safety and the American Federation of Labor, is being withheld until the acceptances of several of the men asked to serve have been received by the government.

The department of labor, which suggested that a general policy be outlined in an effort to eliminate friction at a time when all energy should be centered on the successful prosecution of the war, is endeavoring to expedite the constitution of the board in the hope that unrest will be allayed.

LABOR TO AID MOBILIZATION ON CONDITIONS

Government Submits Memo. Showing Purposes of Man-Power Registration, ON BROAD LINES

Labor Suggests Commission and That Fair Wages and Hours Prevail.

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—In further legislation of the government's plan to take an inventory of the man-power of Canada a memorandum was given out this afternoon by the prime minister. It is understood that the plan to be followed has not yet been definitely decided, but that it will be worked out in the course of a short time. It will be one of the matters considered at the conference of provincial prime ministers now in progress here. The statement issued today is as follows:

The government submitted to the representatives of organized labor the following confidential memorandum dealing with the organization of man-power and woman-power in Canada. "To give effect to the declared policy of the government to mobilize the man-power and resources of Canada for the vigorous prosecution of the war in all its phases, the government believes that inventory of the man-power and woman-power of Canada should be taken, the inventory to include all those of 18 years of age and upwards. This inventory and mobilization is required in order that Canada may more fully co-ordinate and concentrate her war efforts to meet both the urgency of the present military situation and the imperative needs of greater food production and conservation, increased labor and production in essential industries and other pressing problems which face the nation."

Specific Purposes.
Among the specific purposes sought to be accomplished by the inventory are:
1. To ascertain the numbers, residence, nationality and occupation of all persons who have evaded registration under the provisions of the Military Service Act.

2. To facilitate the operation of the Military Service Act by requiring that all registered shall carry a certificate of registration.

3. To ascertain the numbers, residence and occupation of those, who do not now engaged in agriculture, have had experience in farming and are qualified to assist in agricultural production.

4. To ascertain the numbers employed in various occupations or lines of industry so as to ascertain the labor supply which might be rendered available by closing or curtailing less essential industries and diverting labor to more essential industries.

5. To ascertain the number of woman labor available to supplement the work of men, or to take over the work of men who could thereby be released for other services of national importance.

6. To ascertain the number, residence, nationality and occupation of all persons resident in Canada who are not British subjects by birth or naturalization.

7. To be able to utilize with the least inconvenience and to the best advantage the services of all men and women in the employment to which they are fitted by special training and experience.

8. To secure all such information as will enable the government in co-operation with labor, to carry on an effective and organized Dominion-wide propaganda, and appeal for procuring voluntary enlistment of labor, the men and women necessary for all such industries and occupations, as are essential to the successful prosecution of the war, and to assist in securing an equitable distribution of labor for such purposes.

9. To secure the information which will be required in case the state at a future date should be compelled to arrange for a more equitable distribution of fuel, food or other necessities of life.

Labor's Reply.
After due consideration of the memorandum the representatives of labor submitted the following report to the government:
"Your tentative proposals contain in our opinion many points to which we will co-operate with the government on the lines suggested in your memo, providing that clause 8 of same is carried out on

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