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PROBS—FAIR

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STRUGGLE FOR POSSESSION OF CARPATHIAN PASSES CONTINUES WITH EXTREME VIOLENCE

Germany Trying to Induce Bulgaria to Remain Neutral; No News From Dardanelles

ARMIES IN WEST AWAIT MORE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS BEFORE UNDERTAKING OPERATIONS ON EXTENSIVE SCALE—ALLIES MAKING EFFORT TO DRIVE ENEMY FROM ST. MIHUEL—DIPLOMATISTS TRYING TO RE-ORGANIZE BALKAN LEAGUE—DEMONSTRATIONS IN ITALY CALLING ON GOVERNMENT TO INTERVENE.

London, March 28.—The battles for the Carpathian Passes continue with extreme violence, this being the only region where, for the moment, fighting on a large scale is taking place.

The Russians, who recently regained possession of Dukla Pass, are pushing their way toward Bartfeld, on one side, and Svidnik, on the other, where, if they achieved their object, they would have in their possession the heads of the railroads running southward into Hungary.

The Austro-Germans are also carrying on offensive operations against Ussok Pass, to the east, but at Tukholka Pass, still further to the east, they apparently are satisfied to withstand the Austro-German attacks against their strong positions at Kozulowka, which the Germans have tried so often to capture.

Along the rest of the eastern front the battle is of a desultory character, which is doubtless due to the fact that the snow is melting under the warmth of the spring sun, and the rivers are either open or are covered with such a thin coating of ice that they will not bear any weight.

In the west, also, the commanders are waiting for better conditions before making any effort on a large scale, although the French here and there are attempting to capture positions which would give them an advantage when the general offensive is decided upon. Their more recent efforts have been directed against the heights of the Meuse, to the east and south of Verdun, in which both they and the

Germans claim to have made gains. The object of these operations is to compel the Germans to evacuate St. Mihiel, where their line reaches the river Meuse, causing a considerable bending of the French front.

Trying to Re-organize the Balkan League.

To the general public more interesting are the operations in the Dardanelles, of which, however, nothing has been officially published for some days. It is presumed that the Allied fleet is waiting for the mine-sweepers to complete their work before the attacks on the forts are renewed, and perhaps also for the arrival of reinforcements of ships, men and ammunition.

Upon the success of these operations depends not only the fate of Turkey, but probably the future policy of the Balkan States and Italy. In Italy big demonstrations were held today, calling upon the government to take action to realize the ambitions of the country; while in the Balkan capitals the diplomats of the allied nations are busy engaged in an endeavor to re-organize the Balkan League, and insure the simultaneous intervention of all the Balkan powers on the side of the Allies. Before this can be done, Serbia must be induced to make concessions to Bulgaria in that part of Macedonia which fell to her after the last Balkan war.

The Germans are also active in Sofia, and are trying to induce Bulgaria, by the cessation of part of European Turkey, to remain neutral.

WILL MAKE THEIR REPORT THIS WEEK

Special Committee of Commons on Changes in Election Act Will Report to House During the Week.

Ottawa, March 28.—The special commons committee on the reform of the Election Act will report to the House this week.

The Commons Saturday came to an unanimous conclusion on everything, except in regard to the question of votes for soldiers on active service. In case an election is held before the war is completed, no recommendation from the committee will be made to the House on this question, but it will be left for the government to decide what action shall be taken. It is expected, however, that when the bill comes before the House, the government will seek to put through a clause providing for the balloting of soldiers on active service, under the supervision of their commanding officers. The scheme in view is to give sealed ballots to the soldiers as soon as the writ for an election has been issued, and allow them to mark their ballots for the candidates, government, or opposition, in their respective constituencies.

The ballots are then to be sent to the clerk of the crown in chancery at Ottawa, and distributed by him to the various returning officers. The committee is unanimous on the changes which have already been announced as being desirable, namely:

The expediting of the hearing of election appeals; the keeping of polls open in cities until 8 p. m., and the granting of an extra hour at noon to all employees for the purpose of marking their ballots on polling day.

WAS SUNK BY A GERMAN SUBMARINE

Sinking of the Steamer Vosges off Cornish Coast was Caused by Shell from Enemy Submarine.

London, March 28.—The steamer Vosges, which was sunk yesterday off the Cornish coast, was sent to the bottom by the shell fire of a German submarine. When it became known last night that the vessel had been sunk there was no indication of the nature of the vessel that fired upon her.

It was learned today that the Vosges was under fire for over two hours. In addition to her chief engineer, who was killed, two officers and two members of the crew of the Vosges and a woman passenger were wounded.

PRINZ EITEL'S FATE WILL SOON BE SETTLED

Washington, March 28.—Not many more hours remain for the German merchant raiding cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich to hold her status in American refuge at Newport News. While government officials still maintain secrecy as to the time given the vessel to make repairs, that time is known to be almost expired, and commander Thierichsen either must dash soon for the open sea, or submit to internment of his ship by the United States for the remainder of the European war.

GRIT MEMBER OF ONTARIO HOUSE IS CONVICTED

By Public Accounts Committee For Trafficking in War Supplies for Militia Department.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Mar. 28.—The first politician to be convicted by the public accounts committee of trafficking in war supplies for the militia department is George C. Hurdman, Liberal member of the Ontario Legislature for East Ottawa. He is a cousin of Col. Hurdman, Inspector of motor trucks, carriages and other supplies for the militia department, and who was appointed to this office by the late Liberal government.

George Hurdman, M.L.A., endeavored to help the Stevens Motor Company of Milwaukee to get orders and he told the firm in a letter which was read that he had "a very close friend whom he could rely upon for information."

Hurdman also tried to sell binoculars to the department, stating that he had an option on one hundred glasses. It turned out that his statement was false.

It is learned that the Ontario Liberal party have sent for the full evidence, it will be remembered that recently they had to drive Evanurel of Prescott out of the party for trafficking in licenses. Hurdman has been in the legislature less than a year.

MAJ. GAULT UNDER RAIN OF BULLETS RESCUED COMRADE

Toronto, March 28.—Our Major Gault rescued a wounded man in broad daylight, with the bullets splashing the mud up all around him. Major Gault is without doubt the bravest man in the regiment.

This is the account of the bravery and wounding of Major Gault of the Princess Pats, in a letter from Private Wm. Bowie to his family at No. 3 Strathcona Ave., Riverdale.

GOVERNMENT PARTY IN JAPAN WINS BY A BIG MAJORITY

Tokio, March 28.—Complete returns from the general elections held last week to choose a new House of Representatives show a pronounced victory for the government party. The government secured 213 seats, the opposition 136, and the Independents 31.

CLAIMS CROWN PRINCE IS NOW IN BERLIN

London, Mar. 28.—It is reported from Berlin, says the Daily Telegraph's Copenhagen correspondent, that the German Crown Prince is visiting the Crown Princess in Berlin, and that her accouchement is expected shortly. The correspondent adds that this is the first authentic news for three months of the whereabouts of Crown Prince Frederick William.

INVALIDS FROM WAR ZONE REACH HALIFAX

Twenty-three Canadians Back from Battlefield to Recover Health.

Halifax, March 28.—On the Allan liner Scandinavia, which arrived here from Liverpool was 23 Canadian soldiers who went to England with the first contingent. Among them is S. W. Bass, of New Westminster, B. C., who broke his ankle while jumping into a German trench, and Wm. H. Jennings, of Forest, Ont., who is recovering from a gun shot wound in the head. The others are invalids, mostly suffering from rheumatism. The steamer had over 800 passengers and 2,200 packages of mail. On the passage one of the firemen jumped overboard and was drowned. The steamer saw no German submarines in the Irish Sea.

CARVELL WOULD ROB SOLDIERS OF THEIR VOTE

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, March 28.—F. B. Carvell and A. K. MacLean are strenuously opposing the bill to give the soldiers and sailors of Canada a voice in the affairs of the country. They object to give them a vote. The bill to enfranchise them has been discussed in camera by the special committee of the Commons, and has been objected to bitterly by the two Liberals mentioned.

However, a majority of the committee have determined to report a bill to the House, and it will probably be introduced as a government measure tomorrow.

The bill provides for ballots being mailed to every volunteer in Canada or at the front containing three words, "Government," "Opposition," "Independent." The soldier will indicate by pencil mark the party of his choice and attach to the ballot an affidavit as to his name, residence, etc. These ballots will be mailed by the various commanding officers to the clerk of the crown in chancery at Ottawa, and that official in turn will mail them in sealed envelopes to the proper returning officers throughout the country. All such ballots must be in the hands of the returning officers before election day.

RELIEF SHIP LEAVES HALIFAX FOR ROTTERDAM

Halifax, March 28.—The California Belgian Relief steamer Camino which was towed in here in a damaged condition, completed repairs last week, and sailed on Saturday for Rotterdam.

CAPTAINS NOTIFIED TO LOOK OUT FOR ABANDONED STEAMER

An American steamer named the Denver of about 3,000 tons, is reported abandoned on March 23rd, about 250 miles east of St. John's, Newfoundland. The Denver is one of the ships held up white on a voyage from Norfolk, U. S., to Bremen, Germany, last January.

Hon. A. T. Dunn has received the following wire: Collector of Customs, St. John. Steamer Denver, abandoned 23rd of March, in latitude 49 degrees and 46 minutes North, longitude 46 degrees and 23 minutes West. Danger to navigation. Inform all shipmasters. NAVAL DEPT. OTTAWA.

Italy Calls More Men To the Colors; Alpine Troops are Ordered Out

ALL THOSE OF FIRST CATEGORY BORN IN 1883 RECEIVE CALL—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY NEVER OPENED DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ITALY CONCERNING TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS—GERMANY TOOK INITIATIVE AND VON BUELOW ENGINEERED THE PLAN.

Rome, Mar. 28 (via Paris)—All the Alpine troops of the first category, born in 1883, have been called to the colors by the Italian war department for forty-five days.

The official military journal also calls to the colors all artillery and engineer reserve officers for sixty days from April 16.

The Alpine troops are frontier forces, organized especially to defend the mountain passes leading into Italy. This force consists of eight regiments (twenty-eight battalions) of Alpine infantry and two regiments of thirty-six mountain artillery batteries. In addition to these there are two regiments of heavy artillery often batteries each, one regiment of horse artillery of eight batteries, and ten regiments of fortress artillery.

The engineers, whose reserve officers are to be called out April 16, are organized as six regiments, two of them consisting of pioneers, one of pontoon troops, one of telegraph troops, one of railway troops and one of sappers and miners. In times of peace the engineering branch of the army numbers about 12,000 officers and men.

The artillery arm of Italy's land force consists of 263 batteries, 110 companies and fifty-one depots.

Germany Engineered The Plan

Rome, Mar. 28, via Paris—Contrary

to the statements which have appeared in the French and English press, Austria-Hungary never opened any direct negotiations with Italy concerning possible territorial concessions.

From the highest sources here it is affirmed that everything done in this line was due to the initiative of Germany.

The action of the German ambassador to Italy, Prince Von Buelow, it is said, was animated by a desire to eliminate the causes of the antagonism which always has existed between Austria and Italy, but even the work of the former imperial chancellor of Germany in this direction was most cautious, so that the decided statements which have appeared in one sense or the other were most premature.

This, prominent Italians point out, is why Italy vigorously continues her extensive military preparations, not knowing what the future may bring when, next May according to the most reliable opinions, the European war will take a definite turn.

The council of ministers yesterday did not discuss the international situation. The ministers took under consideration proposed rules which would prohibit the publication of news of a military character, a plan for a partial re-opening of the stock exchange, and measures for the benefit of the unemployed.

Another Of Enemy's Submarines Sunk?

London, March 28.—The captain of the steamship Lizzie, which arrived at Llanelly, Wales, Saturday afternoon, stated that he was close by when the British steamer Delmara was torpedoed Thursday by a submarine in the English Channel. He said that

the submarine proved to be the U-37. The submarine was some distance ahead of the Lizzie, which ran over it at full speed. The German then disappeared, and from oil seen on the surface of the water the captain concluded that the underwater boat was either seriously damaged or sunk.

SUBMARINE F-4 HAS BEEN LOCATED

Portions of American Submarine Sunk Outside Harbor at Honolulu Brought to Surface.

Honolulu, Mar. 28.—The submarine F-4, has been located outside the harbor, it was announced tonight. Portions of the superstructure have been brought to the surface. The dredge California will shift moorings, tugs will criss-cross in all directions, and an attempt will be made to lift the submarine.

INSPECTION OF MOUNTED RIFLES AT AMHERST

Special to The Standard. Amherst, N. S., March 29.—Colonel Smart, brigade commander and Col. Black, brigade major of the Second Mounted Rifles Brigade, consisting of the 4th, 5th and 6th regiments arrived at Amherst on Sunday. They will inspect the 6th mounted rifles commanded by Lieut. Col. Ryan today.

FOREIGN POLICY OF GREECE IS EXPLAINED

New Government Denies Nation Must Abandon Neutrality or Miss Her Great Opportunity.

Athens, via London, Mar. 28.—An official communication on the foreign policy of Greece was issued today. It says:

"The government, attributing great importance to the calm and tranquility of public opinion regarding the proper treatment of foreign affairs, considers it an absolute necessity to deny statements to the effect that if Greece does not abandon her attitude of neutrality she will lose the opportunity of realizing her national aspirations."

"The divergence of views between the government and its predecessors arose from opinions regarding the gravity of the dangers threatening the integrity of the country. The government is doing everything in its power to avoid possible dangers."

NO WAR TAX ON LETTERS TO MEN AT THE FRONT

Ottawa, Mar. 28.—At the opening of the House on Saturday morning the Minister of Finance stated, in connection with the third reading of the bill imposing the special taxation for war, that there would be no tax on letters going to the soldiers in France. The Post Office Department has been informed by the head office of the Postal Union in Berns that no further tax or fee could be imposed on foreign going letters, except that provided for in the convention, and this in the case of letters to France amounts to five cents.

Hon. W. T. White proposed an amendment to the section of the bill providing penalties with a view to eliminating informers as originators of prosecutions, initiative in which will now rest with the Minister of Finance or Minister of Inland Revenue.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier contended that action should be limited to the Attorney General.

STORE AND THREE HOUSES WIPED OUT BY FIRE AT WOLFVILLE, N.S.

Halifax, Mar. 28.—Fire today destroyed T. L. Harvey's grocery store and the three residences nearby in Wolfville. The loss is under \$25,000, partly covered by insurance.

Harvey's store and stock were completely destroyed. L. W. Sleep's residence and barn; E. B. Snow's house and barn were destroyed. Sleep's store was damaged, also the roof of the Presbyterian Manse. The house and barn owned by Edward Gould, and Mr. Harris' store also sustained some damage. The cause of the fire is unknown. The fire originated in Harvey's store. The insurance on the property destroyed is about \$12,000.

LORD ROTHSCHILD UNDERGOES OPERATION.

London, March 28.—Lord Rothschild underwent a serious surgical operation Saturday morning. A bulletin issued tonight said that the patient had borne the operation well, and that his condition was satisfactory.

the road will require also the company's present branch line to Fort William, thus giving the outlet to the lake port, for the grain moving season.