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UNSETTLED.

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## Eyes of World Centre on Japan; French Army Wins Near Calonne

### MODERATE VICTORY WON BY FRENCH FORCES IN THE VERDUN SECTOR

East of the Meuse Surprise Attack is Made at the Calonne Trenches and French Penetrate as Far as the Fourth German Line on a Front of Twelve Hundred Metres and to a Depth of Six Hundred Metres—British Win in Palestine.

Teutons Give Uncle Sam's Boys a Rest—Australians Carry Out Big Raid Southeast of Ypres—Around Lens Germans Begin Rather Intensive Bombardment Against Canadian Troops Besieging Great Coal Centre.

Paris, Mar. 4.—"East of the Meuse we carried out a surprise attack at the Calonne trenches and penetrated as far as the fourth German line on a front of 1,200 metres and to a depth of 600 metres," the war office announced tonight. "We captured over 150 prisoners."

Since Sunday the Germans have left the Americans in comparative peace on their sector near Toul. Probably finding that their attempted forays were too costly, they have failed to launch further attacks and even have cut down materially their artillery fire and gas shell bombardments. Again the American gunners have worked havoc among the Germans by heavily shelling a large cantonment where troops were gathered.

Near Warneton, southeast of Ypres, the Australians have carried out a big raid against enemy positions, killing at least fifty of the German defenders, destroying dugouts and bringing back prisoners. Around Lens the Germans have begun a rather intensive bombardment against the British troops besieging the great coal centre.

French Do Well.

The nearest approach to a big battle on the western front has occurred between the French and the Germans in the Verdun sector. Here the French troops carried out a brilliant attack against the Calonne trenches and penetrated the German positions as far as their fourth line. The point of penetration was over a front of 1,200 metres and to a depth of 600 metres, and 150 prisoners were taken in the operation. Attempted attacks by the Germans north of the Chemin Des Dames, near the Malincourt Wood and in Lorraine went for naught owing to the accuracy of the French fire.

In Palestine General Allaby's forces again have dealt the Turks a hard blow, driving forward their front along 12 miles to a maximum depth of 3,000 yards. Little opposition was encountered by the British commander against the Ottomans, whose morale seems to be deteriorating with each fresh attack.

German Statement.

Berlin via London, Mar. 4.—(British Admiralty per wireless press)—The text of the German statement reads: "Western theatre, fronts of Crown Prince Rupprecht and the German Crown Prince—One of our storming detachments penetrated the enemy's lines and captured a number of Belgians."

At several points on the Flanders front violent artillery fire was followed by British attacks which were repulsed. Elsewhere the fighting activity was limited to artillery and trench mortar duels.

Front of Grand Duke Albrecht—On the eastern heights of the Meuse the French artillery and trench mortar firing was intermittent. Twenty-seven persons were brought in as a result of minor raids north of the Rhine-Marne canal, west of Biamont and south of Metzeral."

### SNOW BLOCKADE HOLDS TRAINS

Ocean Limited and Maritime Express, Due Yesterday, Blocked in Drifts.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, March 4.—Traffic was again interrupted today on the C. G. R. in Quebec, due to a big snow storm raging west of the Matapedia Valley. Both the Maritime and Ocean Limited are blocked in the snow in Quebec and will not reach here before tomorrow morning.

### NEW YORK HAS A WIRELESS SENSATION

Apparatus Sufficiently Powerful to Communicate with Germany.

GERMAN MANAGER SAYS HE WORKS FOR U.S.

He Had Been Doing Work for the United States Navy.

BATTLEFIELD PLANT IS SHOWN OFFICERS

Photographer Named Pach Had Been Taking Some Pictures.

New York, Mar. 4.—Wireless apparatus sufficiently powerful to communicate with Germany, which was in the possession of Richard Pfund, at one time manager of the German Teletunken plants at Sayville, N.Y., and Tuckerton, N.J., was seized yesterday by federal officials, it became known today. The outfit was found in a room in the tower of the office building at 111 Broadway. While it was disconnected it could have been set up in half an hour, experts declared.

The raid was made by United States Marshal McCarthy, an army intelligence officer, an army wireless expert and other government agents. They were refused admission by Pfund, who occupies the four floors of the tower as a laboratory. He took the stand that he was doing experimental work for the navy and that he had no right to interfere. He unlocked the door, however, when the officers threatened to break it down.

Is a German.

Pfund is said to have made an explanation concerning the presence of the apparatus in his laboratory but the nature of it has not been disclosed. He was not taken into custody although it is understood the inquiry has not been completed. His assertion that he had been doing work for the navy was verified, but no announcement was made as to its nature.

He is said to have shown the officers the model of a field wireless outfit for communication between points on the battlefield.

Photographer Busy.

Owners of the building said that prior to 1913 Pfund was manager of the German wireless company and that the corporation was the tenant of the tower. It failed to renew the lease in 1913, however, and Pfund took over the four floors which he used as an experimental laboratory. They said he had wires strung on two structures of iron-work on the roof which he used as antennae presumably for testing wireless apparatus.

Questioning of the superintendent of the building elicited the information that a photographer named Pach sometimes went to the roof of the building to take pictures.

New York, March 4.—The mystery surrounding the discovery by agents of the United States marshal's office of an elaborate wireless outfit on the roof of a skyscraper at 111 Broadway, was apparently solved tonight when agents of the building asserted that the rooms searched are being used for wireless experimental purposes by an accredited representative of the United States navy.

United States Marshal McCarthy tonight refused to comment on the case, nor would the army men discuss it.

added to the sentence in default of the payment of the fine. After his release Muhl will be handed over to the chief inspector of Dominion police.

Three months imprisonment was

### JAPANESE TROOPS WILL PROBABLY INVADE SIBERIA

London, Mar. 5.—The British, French and Italian ambassadors in Tokio intended yesterday or today jointly to ask Japan to take the necessary steps to safeguard allied interests in Siberia, according to the Daily Mail.

The newspaper adds that the American ambassador was not expected to join in the request, but that no disturbing conclusions are to be drawn from this fact, as no American opposition is expected.

Invasion of China?

Peking, Wednesday, Feb. 27.—The governor of the province of Sin Kiang, western China, from which have come reports that Turks and Germans are stirring up the Mohammedans, telegraphs that the Russians are massing on the frontier, evidently intending an invasion of Sin Kiang. The telegram adds that the people are panic-stricken and asks that rifles and ammunition be sent to them.

The province of Sin Kiang is generally designated as Chinese or Eastern Turkestan. It is bounded on the north by Mongolia, on the west by Russia and on the southwest by Afghanistan and northern India.

Guardian Protests.

London, Mar. 4.—The Manchester Guardian in a leading article today strongly protests against the landing of Entente Allied troops in Siberia, declaring that to do so would be to join Germany in the dismemberment of Russia. The newspaper asks that no single steps be taken in which America does not join. "That," says the Manchester Guardian, "will at least ensure moderation. President Wilson has declared that German occupation in the west cannot stand. He can be no party to allied occupation in the east."

### WASHINGTON LOOKS FOR JAPAN TO ACT

Military Invasion of Eastern Siberia to Check German Influence and Protect War Stores at Vladivostok Believed to Be Imminent—Situation is Delicate.

Washington, Mar. 4.—Military action by Japan in Eastern Siberia to check German influence and protect war stores at Vladivostok is believed here to be imminent. The United States has not yet expressed its views on the proposed step but it was said in diplomatic quarters tonight that the Japanese probably would move quickly to meet emergency conditions, leaving to the pending diplomatic exchange development of an understanding with America and all the allies upon the scope and purpose of the enterprise.

While it has no direct bearing on the situation in Asiatic Russia, the news which came today to the Swedish legation that Germany has given notice of her intention to occupy the island of Finland will tend to hasten an agreement upon Japan's plans. The German explanation to the Swedish foreign office, which has protested against the proceeding, that the order "is to restore order without any intent to take permanent possession" is regarded as a very clear indication of what the Teutons may undertake in any part of Russia now that the Bolshevik have been forced to accept their hard peace demands.

Profess Ignorance.

Officials and diplomats here profess ignorance of what preparations have been made by Japan for the operations about to be undertaken. As a matter of course secrecy has been reserved and the Siberian question is in force in Tokio. Possibly the next word to come out of Japan on the subject will be announcement of something accomplished.

In this connection it is recalled that at the beginning of the Russo-Japanese war, the Japanese acted without heralding. Before there was any such formality as a declaration of war, a Russian fleet had been smashed and the war was half won.

Russian Integrity.

In seeking an understanding as to scope before going on record as supporting the Japanese action, the American government is understood to hold that while it has every confidence

Winnipeg, Mar. 4.—The law amendments committee of the Manitoba legislature, considering the question of a provincial minimum wage law for women, today decided against the adoption of the arbitrary schedule submitted by the labor representation and the

### HUNS WANT SLICE OF FINLAND SOIL

Germans Striking Against Northwest Country and Austrians Invade Poldovia to Drive Out Bolsheviki and Thus Secure Untrammelled Hold on Country Upon Which So Much Dependence Has Been Placed for the Feeding of the Teutonic Allies.

Military Operations Along the Western Front in France and Belgium Daily Growing in Magnitude Until It Seems Apparent That Fierce Battles Cannot Much Longer Be Delayed—Russians Place Obstacles in Way of Japanese Invasion.

Although the military operations along the western front in France and Belgium daily are growing in magnitude until it seems apparent that fierce battles cannot much longer be delayed, the situation in Russia continues to hold an absorbing place in public interest throughout the world.

Scant advices from Petrograd are coming through, but these that are finding their way out of the turmoil-ridden capital at Petrograd indicate that while the Germans have ceased operations in Great Russia, following the signing of the peace compact with the Bolsheviki, they now are striking against Finland, and that in the south the Austro-Hungarians are making inroads into Podolia in an endeavor to drive out the Bolsheviki and thus secure an untrammelled hold on the country upon which so much dependence has been placed for the feeding of the Teutonic allies.

Want Slice of Finland.

While ostensibly the German operations in Finland, which are being carried out from bases on the Aland Islands, have as their purpose the driving of the Finnish revolutionists and Bolsheviki Red Guards from Southern Finland, it is probable Germany's ambitions in this region have in view the securing of control of southwestern Finland as far as Helsinki. This stretch of territory along the northern shores of the Gulf of Finland, taken in conjunction with the holdings of the Germans on the southern shore to the region of Reval, would give the invaders absolute mastery over the western approaches to the gulf and paralyze completely the movement of Russian supplies of war or commerce into the Baltic.

The Peace Treaty.

The contents of the peace treaty between the Germans and the Bolsheviki have not yet been made public, but there is no room for doubt that the Teuton representatives exacted from the Russians a price in keeping with their full desires. The treaty is to be ratified next Thursday. In Eastern Siberia the Bolsheviki elements evidently are placing obstacles in the way of a possible Japanese invasion of that territory. Already they have destroyed bridges along the trans-Siberian railway between Lake Balkal and the Chinese frontier, in addition to having mined for eventual destruction, if necessary, other portions of the railway line.

### ALLIES READY FOR ATTACK

Churchill Says Germans Will Be Received with the Most Devastating Blast of Artillery Fire in World's History.

London, Mar. 4.—Winston Spencer Churchill, speaking at the Mansion House today at a meeting of the Anglo-French Society, in celebration of the anniversary of Verdun, said: "In a few weeks, perhaps a few days, the Germans must attack on the west front or expose the fact that they are incompetent to deliver a great offensive. In the hush before this impending event it is pleasant to reflect that our army is stronger and better equipped than ever before and that the German attack will be received with the most devastating blast of artillery fire in the history of the world."

### BODY OF PREMIER LIES IN STATE

Funeral of Hon. H. C. Brewster Will Be Held in Victoria This Afternoon.

Victoria, B. C., Mar. 4.—The remains of the late Hon. H. C. Brewster, premier of British Columbia, arrived here today on the steamer Princess Charlotte from Vancouver, accompanied by all the members of the late premier's government. The body was accompanied from the vessel to an undertaker's parlor by a large crowd, including members of the legislature, representatives of public bodies, and citizens in general.

This evening the remains were removed to the legislative chambers at the parliament buildings, to lie in state.

The funeral will be held at the Metropolitan Church tomorrow. The services at the grave will be conducted by the Masonic fraternity.

whole question will be submitted to a commission to decide on the terms of a minimum wage law for this province.

### HALIFAX PILOTAGE REPORT EXPECTED

Recommendation That Commission Be Abolished is Understood to Have Been Made.

Ottawa, Mar. 4.—An official statement with regard to the report of the commission investigating pilotage conditions in Halifax, will be forthcoming within the next few days. Alex. Johnston, deputy minister of marine, when seen today by a Canadian Press representative, said that the report was in the hands of the minister and that nothing would be given out until he had examined it.

It is understood the report recommends that the Halifax pilotage commission be abolished. This body was responsible for the appointment of pilots operating in and out of Halifax harbor. Pilotage conditions in other maritime province ports, and probably in ports of Quebec province also are to be investigated by the commissioners.