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ASQUITH REPLIES TO HUN CHANCELLOR'S RECENT SPEECH

Says Hollneg Misquoted His Words—Premier Said the Allies Intend to Establish Principle That International Problems Must be Handled by Free Negotiations on Equal Terms Between Free Peoples—We Have no Intention of Wiping Germans off the Map

REITERATED HIS DECLARATION OF NOV. 1914

The Allies Will Demand That Belgium Will Not Suffer From the Wanton and Wicked Invasion of her Freedom—Scores Germany's Inhuman Submarine Policy Against Both Neutrals and Belligerents

LONDON, April 11.—On the occasion of the Government reception to the visiting French Senators and Deputies at Lancaster House to-night, Asquith took the opportunity to reply to the speech, recently delivered in the Reichstag, by the Imperial German Chancellor, Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg.

Those present included Earl Kitchener, Marquis Lansdowne, Sir Edward Grey, J. Austen Chamberlain, Walter Runciman, Lewis Harcourt, Viscount Bryce, A. J. Balfour and Lord Robert Cecil.

The Premier, in proposing the toast of "Our Guests," referred to Von Bethmann-Hollweg's claim to readiness on the part of Germany to negotiate for peace, and said: "The German Chancellor wants us to assume the attitude of a defeated to a victorious adversary. But we are not defeated; we are not going to be defeated," and he reiterated that the Allies were only prepared for peace on the terms of his declaration of November, 1914.

Asquith, proceeding, said: "The Chancellor first misquotes my language, then proceeds to distort its obvious meaning. The intention of Great Britain and France when they entered the war was not to strangle Germany, or wipe her off the map of Europe; nor to destroy or mutilate her national life, and certainly not to interfere with, to use the Chancellor's language, the free exercise of her peace-

ful endeavors. As a result of the war, we intend to establish the principle that international problems must be handled by free negotiations on equal terms between free people, and that this settlement shall no longer be hampered, or swayed, by the overmastering dictation of a Government controlled by military castes. That is what I mean by the destruction of the military domination of Prussia; nothing more, nothing less."

Alluding to the fate of Serbia and Montenegro, following the similar fate suffered by Belgium, the Premier said: "We are in this struggle as champions not only of treaty rights, but the independent status and free development of weaker countries. Under the circumstances, cynicism could hardly go further than the Chancellor's claim that it is for Germany, of all powers, to insist, when peace comes, upon giving the various races a chance of free evolution along the lines of their mother tongue and national individuality. Apparently, this principle is to be applied, I suppose, on the approved Prussian lines, both in Poland and in Belgium."

Conceding that the Poles have had experience of German ideas and free evolution of this kind Asquith continued: "An attempt to Germanize Poland has been made for the last 20 years. This strenuous purpose was at once a colossal failure. Prussian domestic policy, and nobody knows this better than the Chancellor, for he had been one of its principal instruments, resulted in the wholesale strikes of Polish children against all attempts to force the employment of the German language. The barbarous floggings inflicted on them and the arrest and imprisonment of their mothers," continued the Premier, "form a black chapter, even in the annals of Prussian culture. It is with this record the Chancellor sheds tears over the fate, of which what he calls the long suppressed Flemish race, I wonder what the Premier care itself, thinks of the prospect the Chancellor opens out to it? The Chancellor says, 'After the war there must be a new Belgium, which must not be a Franco-British vassal,' but between whose people and the Germans who burned

their churches, pillaged their towns and trampled their liberties there is to be, in future, a collaboration of simple one. The Allies desire, and are determined to see, once again old Belgium. She must not be allowed to suffer permanently from the wanton and wicked invasion of her freedom. That which has been broken down must be repaired and restored."

Declaring that he would not waste words on the Imperial Chancellor's lame, half-hearted attempt, to justify the wholesale use of submarines for the destruction of lives and property, the Premier said: "As measures we have taken have been covered by the principles and spirit of international law as applied to the development of modern war. These have been carried out with the strictest regard to humanity. We are not aware of a single instance of a neutral life having been lost by reason of the Allies' blockade." Remarking that the German blockade of Great Britain had begun long before the British Order-in-Council of 1915, as shown by the sinking of the Dutch steamer, Maria, and the American sailing vessel, W. P. Fry, Germany's declaration of its submarine blockade of the United Kingdom was made in February, 1915. Asquith declared, "but it was not until March, 1915, that we adopted those measures against the German trade, which the Chancellor now suggests were the cause of the German submarine policy. I need not dwell upon the flagrant violation, which attend its execution, of the elementary rules and practice of international law, and common dictates and obligations of humanity. Up to this moment it is begun ruthlessly carried out against neutrals, as well as belligerents."

Battle Still Raging at Verdun

PARIS, April 11.—The battle around Verdun is proceeding with unabated fury.

To the west of the Meuse the bombardment is increasing in intensity. It was reported by a French official communication issued to-night that fierce German attacks were delivered against the French front south of Forges Brook, but though the Germans suffered serious losses, the French line between Le Mort Homme and Cumieres remained unbroken.

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N. Y. EVENING TELEGRAM

Liebknicht Once More Muzzled

Is Refused Permission to Address Reichstag on the Grounds That He Has Repeatedly Misused His Opportunity in Order to Injure Dignity of House

LONDON, April 11.—Dr. Karl Liebknicht, German Socialist, has again been refused permission to address the Reichstag, according to Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent. Refusal to permit him to address the Chamber came during a discussion on the second reading of the Bill providing for payments and compensation for disabled soldiers in a lump sum instead of by pension. When Liebknicht asked permission to speak, the President of the Chamber is reported to have replied: "I cannot allow you to speak on a Standing Order, because you have repeatedly misused your opportunity in order to injure the dignity of the House."

French Jubilant Over Failure Hun Drives at Verdun

Latest Hammer Strokes By Germans Against French Have Failed—Prominent Military Critics Now Regard Operations Around Verdun As Trench Warfare

PARIS, April 10.—The Germans continued their attacks last night in Verdun region, east and west of the Meuse, over a front of 13 miles long from Hill No. 204 to Fort Douaumont. The War Office announcement of this afternoon says that in the fighting west of the River for the possession of Deadman's Hill, the Germans were repulsed, except on a front of 500 yards near Hill No. 29. East of the River, the Germans assaults gained no appreciable results.

PARIS, April 10.—The failure of the latest great hammer stroke of the Germans against Verdun has greatly encouraged the French Press and public, and confirms still further the general confidence felt in the ability of the high command. The attack is stated to have been the most determined of great blows delivered since the battle began.

PARIS, April 10.—Six prominent military critics of morning newspapers consider that the operations around Verdun have lost the character of a battle and have assumed the character of trench warfare similar to that on the general front. The Temps agrees with this view saying that the combats of Verdun resemble more and more those engaged in daily trench warfare at various points of the front.

OVERNIGHT MESSAGES

German-Norwegian Trade Resumed

LONDON, April 10.—Germans, under protection of the new mine field, have resumed trade with the west coast of Norway, according to a despatch from Aalesund to the Times. The first steamer since the war began arrived at that Norwegian port last week, where it was loaded with fish and oil.

Seek An Increase In Their Wage

LAWRENCE, Mass., Apr. 10.—Two hundred operatives of the finishing department in the Arlington cotton and worsted mills went on strike to-day for an increase in wages, amounting to two cents an hour. A general readjustment of wages is demanded.

Guarantee to Belgium

LONDON, April 10.—The Havre correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says Great Britain, France and Russia have agreed to guarantee to Belgium the integrity of Belgian Congo, similarly to the guarantee for the integrity of Belgium itself.

Not Confirmed

OTTAWA, April 10.—The Militia Department has not yet received any confirmation of last week's German official claim that they had captured a mine crater from the Canadians at St. Eloi.

Suggests Using Interned Shipping

Lord Robert Cecil said Britain Will Give Careful Consideration To Any Such Proposal of Neutrals.

LONDON, Apr. 10.—Any proposal put forward by neutral Governments with the idea of obtaining immunity from capture for vessels owned by nations at war with Great Britain, in place of service by neutrals, will receive careful consideration from the British Government. War Trade Minister, Lord Robert Cecil, made this statement to-day, in response to a question in the Commons. He said the question of employment of vessels belonging to hostile nations, sheltered in neutral ports, was a matter for neutral Governments to decide. Before arriving at any decision the neutral Governments concerned, no doubt, would take into consideration that the destruction of merchant vessels by the Germans had the effect of diminishing the world's tonnage, and consequently affected the trade of neutrals, not less than the trade of belligerents.

GERMANS UNABLE TO BREAK FRENCH LINES AT ANY POINT

Crown Prince Take Advantage of French Evacuation of Bethincourt and Throws Several Divisions Against New French Position But is Unable to Break Through at Any Point—Germans Face Full Fury of French Fire and Meet Heavy Losses

FRENCH HOLD POSITION IN CALLETTE WOOD

In Pripst Marsh Region Germans Launch Attack by Boats Which Broke Down Under Russian Fire—Russians Repulse Several Turkish Attacks in Bitlis District

LONDON, April 11.—Without a pause, the German Crown Prince is taking advantage of the evacuation of the Bethincourt salient by the French. The occupation of that position by the Germans has thrown several divisions against the new French line, but, so far, it has been unable to break that line at any point. Bombardment on the whole front west of the Meuse is increasing in intensity on both sides. The Germans, moving down along the Haucourt-Bethincourt line, attacked the French positions south of Forges Brook. Here they had to face the full fury of the French guns, which cost them heavy losses. The French front, along a strategic sector extending from Le Mort Homme to Cumieres, remained unbroken. Further attempts at assault were arrested by the French curtain of fire. The French still hold their positions in Callette Wood, which has been the scene of heavy fighting, and against which German attacks are being directed daily.

From the Dvina River to the Lower Stripa, there has been sporadic fighting between the Russian and Germans. Considerable activity by air-men on both sides has also been shown near Komora. In the Pripst Marsh region, a German attack launched by means of boats, broke down under the Russian fire, while on the Lower Stripa the Russians captured a German trench and held it against counter-attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the Germans.

In Asiatic Turkey the Russians penetrated the region of Diarbekir, in Armenia, while in the district of Bitlis several Turkish attacks have been repulsed. South of the Lake Urumiah region the invaders are apparently coming up with the Turkish main forces. Latest official reports are an-

From the "Appan"

NORFOLK, Va., Apr. 10.—Lieut. Berg, the German prize master of the Appan, now lying in Newport News, to-day reported the vessel leaking badly, with four feet of water in the hold.

Berg says that she was damaged by going ashore at Dakkar in Africa just before her capture by the German raider Moewe.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman Resigned

LONDON, April 11.—Premier Asquith has accepted the resignation of Earl Derby as chairman, and Lord Montagu as vice-chairman, of the Joint Naval and Military Board for the Control of Aerial Service.

nouncing engagements fought with large numbers of Kurds. The Kurds are supported by regular Turkish infantry.

MERCHANTS, ATTENTION!

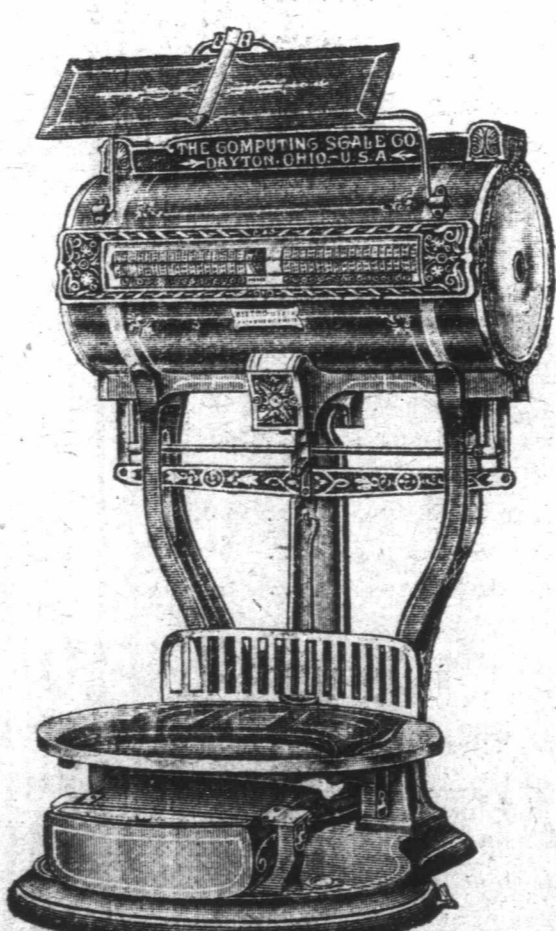
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