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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

FRENCH HAVE ARRIVED THE AD OF THE BRITISH

Line Bends Slightly; Is Restored Again

French Reported Heavily in Action on North Front

British Hold Positions and Repulse Attacks; Enemy Hits Farther South, Probably Because of Advent of French Reinforcements

London, April 18—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—The French are heavily in action on the northern battle area.

Field Marshal Haig today reports his line on Lys battle front standing intact last night as it existed yesterday morning, following the British retirement east of Ypres, no ground having been lost in the battling of yesterday, despite heavy German attacks through the entire period.

A heavy bombardment of the British positions here between Locon and Robecq was reported in progress this morning.

THE LINE HOLDS. London, April 18—Southeast of Kemmel Hill, on the northern battle front, the Germans pressed back the British line slightly, but the situation was restored by a counter-attack. This was the war office announces.

In the battlefront the Germans made attacks before noon yesterday and in each case suffered a complete repulse.

The Germans opened a heavy bombardment of the British positions on the southwestern part of the Lys battle front between Locon and Robecq during the night. The bombardment was still in progress at dawn today.

The enemy is finding himself cramped on the southern side of the wedge he has pushed into the British lines and seems on the eve of an effort to widen it out here. Furthermore, at Locon, the Germans are only some three miles north of Bethune, an important railway center, and at Robecq are within six miles of Lille, a junction point on the railway from Bethune to Hazebrouck.

The British have been holding this sector of the front as strongly as they are the northwestern edge of the salient, where they have held up the German attempt to advance further toward Hazebrouck, as was indicated anew in the repulse of fresh German attacks last night in the Merris sector, along the Baillet-Latour railway.

It seems not unlikely that the Entente high command has forecast a possible larger German purpose to drive determinedly southward, envelop Bethune, and push on to a point where they can compel the British to fall back from Givenchy and the region north of Arras, where the dominating Vimy Ridge is the German objective.

Whether, indeed, this is the larger German strategy has not yet been shown. The development of the enemy demonstration on the Locon-Robecq line, however, will be followed with close attention, in view of this possibility and its bearing upon the great struggle on the Somme front to the south, where the firm hold of the British on the Arras region and the line south to Albert has held up the enemy push on Amiens.

(Continued on page 2, sixth column)

POWER COMPANY MATTER GOES TO SUB-COMMITTEE AT THE CAPITAL

Fredericton, N. B., April 18—The St. John Power Company bills occupied the corporations committee in private session today while the committee considered the evidence submitted and the arguments presented.

Their deliberations resulted in a decision to refer the matter to a sub-committee consisting of Hon. C. W. Robinson, Hon. Peter Veniot and Hon. J. A. Murray, who will confer with the solicitors representing the city and the company. It is understood that the committee is not unfavorably disposed towards the appointment of the investigating commission asked for by the citizens and the duty of the sub-committee will be to ascertain if any arrangement could be agreed upon between the company and the city regarding the course to be pursued during the time which would elapse before action could be taken on the report of the sub-committee.

This is in view of the company's representations that the situation is such that they would face disaster if the company had to wait so long for relief.

Dr. W. B. Wallace, K. C., for the city, and F. R. Taylor, K. C., and P. J. Hughes for the company, still are in arranging the proposed conference. The chairman of the committee, Hon. J. P. Burchill, said after the meeting that he expected a report from the sub-committee either tonight or tomorrow morning.

EMPLOYERS WARNED

Ottawa, April 18—In view of the impending call to the colors of all unmarried men and widowers between twenty and twenty-three, particular attention is directed to the duties of employers as laid down by the military service regulations. An employer is required to answer any questions put to him by his employer for this purpose. The employer is then required to "report to the minister, the names and addresses and whereabouts of all employees in his service called out who have failed to report."

Violation means a fine for each employee of not more than \$100 and not less than \$50 or to three months' imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment. Every employer who knowingly employs or retains in his service any man who has deserted or who is absent without leave from the Canadian Expeditionary Force is liable to imprisonment of not exceeding six months or to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500. Further, every person is liable to a penalty of not less than \$50 and not more than \$500 who knowingly employs or engages in his service, or continues in his service for a period of seven days, any man who belongs to any class or sub-class which has been called out and who has not reported.

SAW HUSBAND SHOT DEAD

Mrs. Colombo Witnesses Slaying With Five-Hour-Old Babe.

New York, April 18—Mrs. Rose Colombo, of 78 Colden street, Newark, lay in bed with her new-born infant and saw her husband shot and killed by Joseph Dalphio, thirty-two, a boarder. Dalphio was captured by the police in a cellar two blocks away. According to the police a revolver containing five cartridges and an empty shell was found in his pocket, with \$88.25 in a wallet, identified as the property of the slain man. The baby was only five hours old when his father was killed.

NEW YORK SUN PAYS CANADA FINE TRIBUTE

"One of Stoutest Arms Raining Blows on Germans"

URGES FINANCING US

Says United States Has Every Reason to Have Dominion Her Debtor So Long as a Cent Can be Lensed to Any Power

New York, April 18—The Sun this morning in an editorial says: "While Canada is preparing for her new war credit we here in the United States can do nothing better for that heroic member of the allies and nothing better for ourselves than to play a large part in the financing of our neighbor. We need to do this to sustain one of the stoutest arms raining blows upon the advancing Germans in France. We need to do it to preserve a financial independence, peace or war, it is worth more to us, with the single exception of the United Kingdom, than that of any other domain on earth."

"Considering Canada's population, her quick cash assets, her distance from the fighting zone, and what she has done on the battle field is thus far the marvel of the war. With a population of about only 7,000,000 in round numbers—lower by some three millions than the population of the state of New York—she has maintained at the front a superb army of 300,000 men, whose fighting power, man for man, has been unequalled by any in the war. She has poured into the struggle upward of a billion and a half of funded treasure. And now she is to begin the raising of another five hundred millions, or two billions within four years. Our work for Canada is cut out for us both as a war measure and as a foreign trade measure. Why not finance Canada, heroic fighter and splendid ally, with loans to be spent in this country? Why not finance her above any other country? We lend Great Britain credits to spend in this country. We lend France, Italy, Belgium for the same purpose. We even lend Russia, Roumania and Greece. For all these nations \$5,285,000,000, and not a penny yet for Canada!

"Why not, in truth, Canada, trusted as a good neighbor, esteemed as a neighbor, honored as a noble ally? Certainly we can do no less for Canada than we do for the others. Undoubtedly we ought to do more for her, making as an ally, for her industry building as our neighbor and next of kin. We must lend Canada willingly, generously, as long as we can lend a cent to any other power."

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, E. F. Stuart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—An area of high barometer accompanied by low temperature has moved southward over Ontario and Quebec from the Hudson Bay region, while the low areas which were in Dakota and Illinois yesterday now form a trough of low pressure extending from the Missouri Valley to New England. The weather is cold throughout the dominion.

Forecasts. Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay, Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Northern winds, cold with light snowfalls today and Friday.

Snowfalls. Maritime—Strong northwest and east winds, unsettled and cold with light snowfalls today and Friday.

Superior—Northern winds, cold with light snowfalls today and on Friday.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan—Northerly winds, mostly fair and cool today and on Friday.

Alberta—Fair and cool. New England—Snow or rain tonight and Friday; cooler; fresh northeast winds.



UNDAUNTED. —N. Y. World

British People Anxious; Some Papers Critical

Eager For News of French Reinforcements—Vigorous Call for Return of General Sir Wm. Robertson as Chief of Staff

London, April 18—The British people have been ever anxious since the beginning of the war. There is no lack of confidence that the British soldiers will do all that is in their gallantry and their stubborn defence against great odds, but as the Germans have continued day after day nibbling away sectors of the British front, regaining towns won in the last two years by British, Canadian, Australian and South African with tremendous costs, the question has forced itself upon the public whether it is fair to expect them to continue fighting indefinitely against such superior masses. Another question is whether blame does not rest in high quarters that the soldiers are placed in the position of being outnumbered constantly.

In the meantime, the newspapers are discussing the situation with the greatest freedom. The war cabinet is being criticized sharply by some military experts and editors. Colonel Repington, in the Morning Post, says the British forces are greatly inferior in numbers to the French reinforcements. He says the refusal of the war cabinet to act on the advice of the general staff and the French staff for an increase in man power given months ago.

Several newspapers are calling for the return of Sir William Robertson, former chief of the general staff. His resignation was appointed only three months ago and was welcomed generally as the man for the work. He would be a great asset to the war cabinet.

"Bring back Robertson," is the appeal with which the weekly paper, John Bull, having a great circulation among the masses, has placarded the country today. It would be no surprise if that becomes a general demand tomorrow.

PTE. WM. HARRIS HAS BEEN WOUNDED

John Harris of 14 Prince William street was advised yesterday that his brother, Private William Harris, a member of the 23rd battalion, had been wounded and admitted to a hospital in France. Private Harris is a former resident of this city but removed to the United States a few years ago.

FATHER O'DONOVAN BETTER.

Reassuring news was received last evening when a telegram brought word that Rev. J. J. O'Donovan, who is ill in Boston, was reported slightly improved. The cheering word will relieve considerably the anxiety felt by many friends in St. John and vicinity. Father O'Donovan was visiting in Boston when taken ill. He was a guest of Cardinal O'Connell.

THE ELECTION. H. E. Wardroper, common clerk, said this morning that the polling booths for Monday's election will be in the same quarters as they were for the primaries.

Budget Debate May End Tonight

P. E. ISLAND TO BE A SAHARA

No One May Have Liquor Except From Vendor

Many Had Stocked up—New Act on Passage Through Committee in Legislature—Harder to Get Doctor's Prescription

Charlottetown, P. E. I., April 18—Prince Edward Island went dry more than seventeen years ago, the first province in Canada to pass a prohibitory act. This act has been made more stringent year by year, but today there is before the legislature a brand new bill which will make of this province a regular Sahara. The new bill at time of writing is about half through committee, and it is receiving no opposition it will be passed practically in its entirety.

One change is the appointment of vendors whereby the handling of liquor is taken entirely out of the hands of the druggists. The latter are not allowed to keep it, except as it may be used in the manufacture of essences, liniments, etc. Provision is made for importation by one wholesale vendor.

Under the new act there will be more control exercised over the granting of prescriptions by doctors. A doctor must first officially have visited a patient before he can grant a prescription.

Provision is also made for the restrictions of the so-called tonics. A clause prohibits any one having liquor other than purchased from a vendor. The leader of the opposition said that many in Charlottetown and Summerside in order to make provision against "the evil day of drought," had filled their cellars before the federal order-in-council prohibiting importation into a "dry" province had been passed. These will have to dispose of all their stock before July 1, when the new prohibition act will go into effect.

MILNER WAR SECRETARY

Paris Announcement of Changes in British Cabinet—Derby to French Capital

Paris, April 18—Viscount Milner has been appointed secretary of state for war in the British cabinet, according to Le Matin. The Earl of Derby, who has been war secretary, the paper says, will come to Paris as ambassador in place of Lord Bertie, who retires. Premier Clemenceau had a long conference last night with Lord Milner.

Alfred Milner, First Viscount Milner, has been a member of the British war cabinet without portfolio since Dec. 1, 1916. The Earl of Derby has been at the head of the war office since the Lloyd George cabinet took office in December, 1916. It was announced some time ago that Lord Bertie was about to leave his post in Paris, where he has been ambassador since 1905.

LATER. London, April 18—It is officially announced that the Earl of Derby has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary on a special mission to France, in succession to Lord Bertie. Viscount Milner becomes secretary for war, and J. Austen Chamberlain a member of the war cabinet.

Mr. Chamberlain, eldest son of the late Joseph Chamberlain, has been a prominent figure in public life for a score of years. His last previous post was secretary for India, which he resigned last July after being censured by a commission which investigated the disastrous first campaign of the British in Mesopotamia.

SAPPER F. J. STEEVES IN ENGLISH HOSPITAL

Mrs. W. A. Smith of 1 Union street, West St. John, was advised this morning from Ottawa that her son, Sapper Fraser F. Steeves of the Canadian Railway Construction Battalion had been admitted to the Witte's Cross War Hospital in Surrey, England, suffering from rheumatism. Sapper Steeves is twenty-nine years old, and prior to going overseas was in the employ of the Union Foundry and Machine Works, West St. John.

Vienna newspapers report serious rioting in the meat market there on Sunday.

FALL OF HUNGARIAN MINISTRY REPORTED

Amsterdam, April 18—The Hungarian ministry has resigned, says a despatch from Budapest.

A Copenhagen despatch says Premier Wexler had decided to resign owing to dissension in the ministry over the suffrage reform bill, and that King Charles was expected to request him to form a new cabinet, excluding the ministers who oppose a compromise on the suffrage measure.

Four More Speakers To Be Heard

THE TAX ON THEATRES

Agreement Reached and Will Be Submitted to Municipalities Committee—This Morning Devoted to Log Driving Company Bill

(Special to Times.) Fredericton, April 18—The budget debate, which started on Monday evening of last week, is drawing to a close and it is expected that the end may come this evening. Hon. Mr. Veniot and B. F. Smith still are to be heard as the leader of the opposition and the premier will be the last speaker.

Theatre Tax. An agreement has been reached between T. P. Regan, representing motion picture interests, and a sub-committee of the municipalities committee, to which the theatre tax section of the assessment act was referred.

Mr. Regan conferred with Dr. Campbell, Mr. Tilley and City Solicitor Baxter last evening and with Mayor Hayes by long-distance telephone and this morning further discussed the matter. The agreement, which will be submitted to the committee, promises a reduction in the rate of the proposed tax on gross income.

Log Driving Bill. The greater part of the morning was devoted by the corporations committee to consideration of the bill to amend and consolidate the various acts relating to the St. John River Log Driving Co.

J. J. F. Winslow appeared as collector for the log company and R. B. Hanson for the Fraser interests. Lumbermen present were J. Fraser Gregory of Murray & Gregory, F. C. Beattie of Stewart, Cutler Co., A. H. F. Randolph of Randolph & Baker, and Walter S. Jackson of the driving company.

The chief change was the provision that the company should create an operating fund each year by collecting in advance of the drive their estimated rating and booking charges and adjust the amount when the count was made. This would apply in full to operators intending to use their booms.

Other operators by paying in addition an advance on fifteen per cent of their cut, could have their logs which reached the booms by accident, handled at the same rate. Others who did not participate in the advance assessment would pay \$2.50 extra a thousand.

There was a lively discussion over the methods of the lumbermen and charges of peculiar practices were made.

After considerable argument the committee decided to limit the advance fund to not more than \$12,000 and sent the lumbermen out to confer among themselves on some other features of the bill.

HUNS BURN RUSSIAN VILLAGES AND KILL WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Moscow, April 10—(By the Associated Press)—Because the peasants in the village of Novoselki, in the government of Mohilev, resisted an armed requisition of money by German troops and killed an officer in the resulting scuffle, the Germans burned the village and from machine guns placed around it they fired upon the inhabitants, including women and children, who tried to escape, killing many of them.

HARBOR COMMISSION

Mayor Hayes, speaking this morning as what action the city would take in the matter of having a harbor commission, said that so far as he knew there was nothing as yet decided upon.

Commissioner Fisher, who was present at the time, said that he personally was very much in favor of the change and believed that the council should take the matter up immediately.

The commissioners are unanimous in their opinion that a harbor commission would be a good thing for the city, but as yet have not decided as to the mode of procedure. With Commissioner Wigmore's return from Ottawa on Saturday, it is understood that the matter will be gone more fully into.

TRAIN LATE.

The Boston train was reported an hour and a half late today owing to a slight detention in the vicinity of McAdam Junction.

RIOT IN BELFAST

Trouble Attends on Breaking up Anti-Conscription Meeting

London, April 18—Rioting attended the breaking up of an anti-conscription meeting in Belfast yesterday, according to a despatch to the Daily News. Revolvers were used and baton charges were made by the police, who were pelted with paving stones. Virtually every plate glass window in the street was smashed.

Fifteen thousand persons participated in the meeting, which was called by the labor party. The trouble was precipitated, the despatch says, by 200 young shipyard workmen.