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FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1918.

GENERALLY FAIR

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United States Ambassador Warns Russia Not to Sign Peace Treaty

ADDRESSES AT OPENING OF LEGISLATURE INDICATE NO CONSTRUCTIVE POLICY

Announcement of Legislative Programme Disappointing and Apparently Government Means to Worry Along with Threadbare Policy and by Taking Advantage of Ideas Supplied by the Old Administration.

Mr. Hetherington of Queens Moves Address in Reply to Speech from Throne and Mr. Michaud of Madawaska is Seconder—Hon. Mr. Murray Will Speak Today—Government Afraid to Allow Voters of Carleton to Elect Third Representative.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Mar. 7.—An opening appropriate to war-time conditions marked the convening of the second session of the seventh legislative assembly of New Brunswick which took place at three o'clock this afternoon. The ceremony was devoid of all glamor which precedent had established. There was no sounding of the cannon. There was no martial music, customary in former years. Even the costumes worn by the large audience carried with it a sense of moderation commendable in the extreme. An outstanding feature of the assemblage, was the large number of ladies present not only on the floor of the house but also in the galleries. The weather was ideal for the occasion.

The only feature in connection with the convening of the house and undoubtedly the most important which seemed to lack that spirit of determination and solidarity during these crucial times was the reply to the speech from the throne. It is evident that in the preparation of both speeches literary effort was foremost in the eyes of the government as neither Mr. Hetherington nor Mr. Michaud left a favorable impression upon those present.

(Continued on page 4).

DEVLIN FOR NAT. LEADER

Member for West Belfast May Succeed John Redmond—Ulster Unionist's Tribute to Latter.

London, March 7.—Ulster may have the next leader of the Irish Nationalists. Indeed he may come from Belfast. The name of Joseph Devlin, M. P. for the West Division of that city is suggested as a strong possibility. Devlin is a newspaper man and for years editor of the *Silgo Champion*. He has visited the United States. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Craig, Unionist member of parliament for the East division of Down, said: "With profound sorrow I have learned of the death of Mr. Redmond. Throughout my parliamentary career he has been the leader of the Nationalists, and consequently I have always differed with him politically. But on rare occasions when brought into closer touch with him, I was captivated by his charm of manner. I never shall forget the generous tributes he paid to the gallantry of the Ulster division or the cordial letter of sympathy he wrote me when my brother was wounded and taken prisoner."

"He lived a strenuous life, always for Ireland, and what he believed to be for her welfare. He probably had the most difficult task of any party leader in the House of Commons, especially during the past seven or eight years."

"His death undoubtedly was hastened by the state of affairs in Ireland, and all we, his colleagues, can say, is that a great Irishman has passed away. God rest his soul."

London, Mar. 7.—The body of John Redmond is now lying in Westminster Cathedral. The funeral arrangements have not yet been completed, but it is stated that the interment probably will be in the family vault at Westford.

Mr. Redmond's will, which is in Ireland, will be opened within a day or two.

Dublin, Mar. 7.—Flags here and in

U. S. GUNS SHELL GERMAN LINES

Party of Missing Americans Return to Army Unexpectedly—Much Aerial Activity

With the American Army in France, Mar. 7.—(By The Associated Press)—An American patrol comprising one officer and eight men which had been missing since last night in the sector west of Toul, suddenly emerged from a shell hole close to the German lines today and made a dash across No Man's Land without a shot being fired at them.

It was noon when the patrol carried out its rush to the American line. The men's comrades, looking on, expected every moment to see them wiped out, and their safe return was an agreeable surprise. They explained that they had lost their way in the dark. The enemy artillery has not resumed its activity. The American guns today effectively shelled the enemy first lines and also a town behind the German lines where buildings and their troops were using were destroyed.

C. P. R. INCREASES TORONTO WAGES

Toronto, Mar. 7.—To avoid trouble with their freight handlers, the C.P.R. officials here have raised the pay of their hands to the scale offered by the Grand Trunk Railway in settlement of the strike which has caused an embargo on all local freight. The G.T.R. strike is still in force and a conference between the local freight agents and the men which was held this morning proved abortive. The company has made an offer of 28 cents, 29 cents and 30 cents respectively which rates were adopted by the C.P.R. on Saturday.

All parts of Ireland are trying at half mast and the people are wearing emblems of mourning for John Redmond.

LT.-GEN. CURRIE HAS NOT ASKED FOR FURLOUGH

Everything Going Well with the Canadians at Present Time.

HIS HEALTH HAS NOT FAILED, AS REPORTED

Casualties at Hill 70 Were Not Heaviest the Boys Suffered.

BAD CONDITIONS AT PASSCHENDAELE

Canadians Look Back on the Past Year with Pride, He Says.

Ottawa, March 7.—A denial of the report that his health had failed and that he had asked for furlough is contained in a private letter written by Lt.-General Sir Arthur Currie, commander of the Canadian forces to F. B. McCurdy, parliamentary secretary of the department of militia and defence on January 31st last.

"My health was never better than it has been this winter," says Sir Arthur, who makes some interesting observations on the operations of the Canadian troops.

Everything Going Well.

"I am very glad to be able to tell you," he writes, "that everything is going very well with us at the present time. We look back on the year 1917 with a great deal of pride, feeling quite sure that in that period the Canadian corps more than did its share in helping to win the war. I hope that some one will take it upon themselves to write the story of that year's campaign. It seemed like one continuous battle, and one continued series of successes. What is an interesting thing to me and a fact which I am sure will be scarcely believed by the multitude, is that during 1917, the battle casualties were less than during 1916. When I make this remark I am not talking the fourth division into consideration because it was not present during all of 1916. According to what one hears from time to time, there seems to be quite a lot of talk about casualties during last year."

Fighting on Hill 70.

Sir Arthur Currie alludes, in this connection to the fighting at Hill 70. "The impression which some people in Canada have formed that the casualties suffered there were the heaviest that the corps had suffered in any engagement and says: "That was a most ridiculously untrue statement, and from the standpoint of a comparison of our casualties with those we inflicted on the Germans was one of the most, if not the most, successful operations we have ever carried out."

With reference to the fighting in October and November of 1917, he says: "We all know that the casualties were heavy at Passchendaele. Before the battle started, I stated to the higher authorities just what I thought the operations would cost and I was within two hundred of what they actually did cost. We have never fought under worse conditions."

Had To Be Taken.

All previous attempts to take the Passchendaele Ridge had failed, the general observes; the position had to be taken, or much of the season's fighting in that area would have counted for naught.

The corps was taken there for the special purpose of making sure that the ridge was taken before the winter set in. We arrived at a bad season

MANY SUBMARINES SUNK BY ALLIES

Washington, March 7.—More submarines were destroyed by the Allied and American naval forces in December than Germany was able to build during that month, according to information reaching Washington. This fact developed today in discussions of the statement made to parliament Tuesday by Eric C. Goslar, First Lord of the British Admiralty, that the submarines were being checked.

Whether succeeding months have shown a net loss in German submarines is not known here. It is believed, however, that the anti-submarine campaign has proved so effective that increased efforts this spring will see a steady decrease in the number of U-boats available to prey on allied and American shipping. German submarines did not sink a single Italian vessel during the week ending March 2.

ARMY OFFICERS IN FRANCE IMPLICATED WITH GOLDSSELL

Examination of Prisoner's Papers Indicates That Others Involved.

New York, Mar. 7.—Indications that a number of French army officers now in France may be implicated in the Frank J. Goldsell, under arrest in Washington, in his alleged larceny of between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000 of French government funds paid him as commissions on purchases of automobiles in the United States have been found in an examination of papers seized in a raid on the office of the Alliance Motors Corporation, it was announced here today by Alfred H. Becker, an assistant attorney general, Washington. Mar. 7.—Efforts of Frank J. Goldsell, accused of embezzlement of millions of dollars from the French government on war contracts here to have him released from jail in the custody of a United States marshal, were defeated today by United States Commissioner Hitt. Unless other relief can be obtained, Goldsell will be required to remain in jail until his arraignment March 20.

NORTHERN LIGHTS WERE BRILLIANT LAST EVENING

St. John and other points of the province were favored last night by a brilliant display of the Aurora borealis. The Northern lights interfered with the telegraph wire service to some extent.

The appearance of the Aurora is generally followed by cold weather. A Canadian Press dispatch from New York states "Brilliant lights over the city tonight brought thousands of persons into the streets to observe what was believed to be a great fire in the direction of New Jersey. The bright, varicolored lights, with vivid red predominating, proved to be aurora borealis and officials at the weather bureau said the display was the best they had ever seen in this latitude. Telephone and telegraph service, especially between New York and Canadian cities was seriously interrupted."

In Duluth, Minn., the most elaborate display of the aurora borealis ever seen there appeared last night. The lights took the form of an eagle with full spread wings.

\$5 POLL TAX

Halifax, Mar. 7.—The city council tonight adopted a resolution to ask for legislation to enable Halifax to collect a \$5 poll tax on all non-residents coming here to work. It is expected this tax would net the city from \$20,000 to \$25,000.

COLLEGE TAKEN

Montreal, Mar. 7.—The Presbyterian College here was taken over on March 15 by the military authorities for the care of neurotic cases among soldiers. The students will be absorbed under the federated college plan in force here.

on of the year, inasmuch as bad weather had set in, which makes going in that part of the country particularly bad. Then again it was at the end of a campaign, when roads, trails and communications of all sorts were at their worst. Furthermore, much of the supporting artillery had been engaged for months."

TEUTONS NOW EIGHTY-SIX MILES FROM PETROGRAD

GERMANY AND FINLAND SIGN PEACE PACT

Finland Agrees to Concede No Land Without Hun Consent.

BOLSHEVIKI LIKELY TO RATIFY TREATY

Will Make Peace With Germany to Prepare for Another War.

FOOD CONDITIONS IN DENMARK SERIOUS

People Are Actually Starving Because of the Food Blockade.

Amsterdam, Mar. 7.—Official announcement was made in Berlin today of the signing of a peace treaty between Germany and Finland and also of trade and shipping agreements and a supplementary protocol. The treaty was signed at noon today.

Finland, by the conditions of the treaty, agrees to concede no territory or grant territorial rights to any foreign power without the previous consent of Germany, who undertakes to exert herself to secure the recognition of Finland's independence by all the powers.

Each party renounces compensation for war damages. Negotiations will start forthwith for a trade and shipping treaty. The fortifications of the Aland Islands will be removed as speedily as possible and regulations will be adopted for the permanent non-fortification of the islands.

Another Struggle.

London, Mar. 7.—The decision of the central executive committee of the soldiers' and workmen's council in favor of accepting the German peace terms was arrived at, a Petrograd despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company reports, in view of the lack of a strong army and the weakness of the German working class movement. The resolution adopted by the committee, with twenty-six dissenting votes, at the same time declares that the Russian people will never be reconciled to the peace terms, and will accept them merely in order to gain time in which to gather fresh strength for another struggle.

Starving in Denmark.

An Atlantic Port, Mar. 7.—Food conditions in Denmark were worse than any one who has not experienced them can know, said Peter Oscar De Tresschow, consul-general at Chicago for Denmark, who was a passenger on a Danish steamer which arrived here today.

"The people are actually starving," he said, adding that he hoped to be able to assist in arranging some plan which would alleviate the distress. Not only the poor were in want for food, he asserted, but also persons who in ordinary times would be considered as well-to-do. Their money will not purchase them necessities, because they cannot be obtained in Denmark. These conditions, he continued, had been brought about partly by the submarine blockade and partly by the embargo of the Allies against the neutral countries of Scandinavia.

NEW ONT. WEST GRAND MASTER

Chatham, Ont., Mar. 7.—Major J. I. Harit, M.P.P., was tonight elected Grand Master of the Orange Grand Lodge of Ontario West, succeeding H. C. Hocken, M.P., Col. Sam Sharp, M.P., being elected Deputy Grand Master.

In Spite of Fact That Formal Treaty of Peace Has Been Signed by Central Powers and the Bolshevik Government Fighting Continues at Various Points Along Eastern Front, Germans Evidently Considering Pact Mere "Scrap of Paper."

Germans Reach Jamburg, a Town Sixty-Eight Miles from Russian Capital, Now Being Evacuated—Turks Aggressors in Asia Minor Against Russians—Huns Negotiate Treaty of Peace with Finland—Japan Silent.

In spite of the fact that a formal treaty of peace has been signed by the Central Powers and the Bolshevik government of Russia, fighting continues at various points along the eastern front. That Germany considers the convention she forced Lenine and Trotzky to sign as a "scrap of paper" is evidenced by the announcement that the Teutons have reached Jamburg, a town sixty-eight miles from Petrograd. The report of the subsequent partial retirement of the Germans does not lend encouragement to the belief that further invasion of Russia has been abandoned. The United States ambassador has advised the Russians not to sign the pact.

The text of the peace treaty signed by Rumania serves, too, to show that the Central Powers are loath to forego any conquests they may make in Russia. One of the clauses of the Rumanian treaty bound that country to assist in the transport of Teuton forces through Moldavia and Bessarabia on their way to Odessa, the "granary of Russia."

Not only are the Teutons advancing against the demoralized Slavs, but the Turks are also aggressors in Asia Minor. Reports state that the Ottoman troops are operating near Trebizond, on the southern shore of the Black Sea. (Continued on Page 2)

HEAVY FIRING NEAR VERDUN

Germans Undertake Number of Raids, But Are Dispersed with Losses.

Paris, March 7.—Continued activity on the Verdun front, where heavy artillery fighting and raiding operations have been in progress for several days is reported in today's official communication.

The official announcement follows: "There was spirited fighting with artillery during the night in the region of Beaumont and Bezonvaux (Verdun front) and in Upper Alsace near Ban De Sapt and east of Largitzen. In Lorraine the Germans undertook a number of raids after bombardments in the region of the Forest of Parroy. Near Neuviller attacking troops were dispersed by the French fire. In the region of Bures there was a spirited engagement. The French repulsed the Germans who sustained appreciable losses. Near Veho the Germans also were repulsed by the French, who took prisoners. The night was calm on the rest of the front."

CABINET POSITION TO BE ABOLISHED

Department of Inland Revenue Will Be Merged With That of Customs.

Ottawa, Mar. 7.—It is understood that, in connection with the cabinet reorganization made necessary by the defeat of Hon. Albert Seigney and Hon. P. E. Blondin that the government will add the department of inland revenue to the customs department, thereby reducing the number of government departments by one. The bringing in to force on April 1st of war-time prohibition will have a tendency to greatly reduce the importance of the inland revenue department and a decision to make it a sub-department of the department of customs would occasion no surprise here.

RUSSELLITES IN BAD LIGHT

Dismantled Wireless Apparatus Found at Their Headquarters—Printed Questionable Documents.

New York, March 7.—A dismantled wireless apparatus, which had not been sealed in accordance with orders issued by the government several months ago, was found by officers of the army intelligence bureau who made a search of Bethel Home, the headquarters in Brooklyn of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, and of the International Bible Students' Association. It was announced today that the organizations formerly headed by "Pastor" Russell.

The apparatus was not seized. The search was made in connection with the federal investigation of a volume of papers taken in a raid on Bethel Home and the Brooklyn Tabernacle, another Russellite establishment ten days ago. This examination is being conducted, it is said, to determine whether the records contain seditious matter. Officers who found the wireless plant said they were met at the door of Bethel Home by a man who said he was Joseph A. Rutherford, successor to "Pastor" Russell, as head of the several religious organizations. He told them the apparatus had been installed for "the amusement" of a number of young members of the Russell sect who live at the home.

POSSIBLE SENATORS

Toronto, Mar. 7.—According to a Toronto Star despatch from Ottawa the following are mentioned as possibilities for vacant senatorships: John Webster, who retired from the field in Brockville and Leeds in favor of Sir Thomas White; Col. Mulholland, of Durham, who retired to make place for Hon. N. W. Rowell, at the last election; Lieut. Col. William Ross Smyth, former M. P. for East Algoma, who had been overseas for some time past; and J. G. Turfitt, M.P. for Assiniboia.