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PROBS—FAIR

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WITH PRZEMYSL TAKEN FIGHTING ON A LARGER SCALE IN THE WEST IS EXPECTED

ENGLAND REALIZES THAT THE CRUSHING OF GERMANY WILL MEAN LONG CONFLICT

Colin McKay Writes of the Coalition Government and Opinion Regarding Necessity for it—Great Drain on Munitions of War Convinces British People That Output Must Be Increased—Absolute Confidence in Outcome of Struggle.

(From a Standard Staff Correspondent.)

London, May 24.—A coalition government is no doubt a natural evolution, the logical development of the situation in which Great Britain finds herself. The government has recently been criticized by certain sections of the press rather freely, more freely than the government of any country less democratic than Great Britain would tolerate in war time. Lord Northcliffe's organs, the Times included, have tried to disturb the public confidence in Lord Kitchener, but not with any noticeable results. It is claimed by Liberal organs that considerations of personal rivalries, as well as of party politics, had something to do with determining the course of the Northcliffe journals, but this phase of the matter is rather obscure. In any case the attacks on Lord Kitchener only served to provoke demonstrations showing how strong is the popular confidence in the Secretary for War.

What appears to crystallize from the discussion is a conviction that the government has permitted too much work and responsibility to rest on the shoulders of Lord Kitchener; an idea that perhaps the government itself has been slow to appreciate the magnitude of the task it has undertaken; a feeling that if the government had not established such a rigid censorship of news the nation would have sooner realized the greatness of the work it has to do, and given itself more seriously to the business of mobilizing its resources.

When war broke out Great Britain was unprepared on the military side, and it was no doubt necessary to send troops to the firing line, somewhat poorly equipped, as compared with the Germans. While maintaining constantly increasing forces in France, Egypt and other places, Kitchener has been busy organizing, training and equipping an army of 2,000,000 men, an enormous task in itself. Considering her original unpreparedness, and the vast scale of the preparations the mother country has been making, it would be miraculous if there were no occasions for criticism.

Concerning Munitions.

When the matter of the shortage of war munitions first began to be talked about, Lloyd George delivered an address about the drunkenness of British workers. This aroused the indignation of the leaders of the working class. They retorted that British industry and British commerce would never have attained or been able to maintain their commanding position if British workers were drunkards and shirkers. And they declared with equal emphasis that if anybody was responsible for the lack of munitions, it was the members of the government themselves who did not know what resources were available for the manufacture of war material, and consequently could not be utilizing them to the best advantage. This, they contended, was the conclusion from the fact that the government had appointed a commission to find out what resources for manufacturing munitions were available. Mr. Asquith was constrained to make what was practically a public apology for the statements of his impulsive Chancellor of the Exchequer.

No doubt the government has been making great efforts to secure a supply of ammunition, as is evidenced by the placing of contracts for shells in Canada. But the shortage continued. Wounded men, home from the trenches, told stories embodying complaints of the inadequacy of artillery support, owing to lack of ammunition. Matters simmered. Members of the government, as a prominent journal, usually found supporting the Liberal party, declared, "played hide and seek with the public, and with one another, about this as about other matters." Then Lord Fisher tendered his resignation, because, it is said, of his strong disapproval of the plan of trying to force the Dardanelles without a large land force, properly equipped, to co-operate with the naval forces. On top of this the military headquarters in France—something of itself unprecedented during this war—published, apparently with the approval of General French, an article declaring that the British forces had suffered heavily because of the shortage of high explosive shells. Some Liberal journals have declared that this article bordered on high treason, but it is obvious that the Germans would not have to be Sherlock Holmes to realize from the nature of the fighting what position the British were in regard to high explosives. Besides the officers and men, home from the trenches, have been trying to arouse public interest in this matter.

Soldiers' Stories.

Quite a number of soldiers, in casual conversation with me, have referred to the inadequacy of support from the artillery, owing to lack of ammunition. They say officers have frequently telephoned for a covering fire, only to be told the batteries were short of material. A member of the Montreal Highlanders who was transferred to the famous Black Watch, said in one case when they asked for a covering fire, they were told the battery only had a single round of ammunition, and were reserving that in case the Germans broke through the trenches and charged the guns. Another statement frequently made by wounded men from the trenches is that the Germans usually have from three to five times as many machine guns as the British forces.

Apparently the soldiers' stories did not have any great effect upon the public mind, but they prepare it for the ready acceptance of the reasons given for the resignation of Lord Fisher, and the conclusion of the article in the Times. That article may have been unpatriotic from a party viewpoint, but in conjunction with the resignation of Lord Fisher, it has shaken up the government and aroused the people.

Probably the government by making another cabinet shuffle would have contrived to carry on as a party organization if these squalls had sprung out of a clear sky of public confidence. So far as I can judge there is no particular disposition to lay any specific blame upon the government.

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GIFT OF \$100,000 TO BUY MAXIM GUNS FOR CANADIAN ARMY

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, June 4.—The Minister of Finance received through the Governor General a cheque for \$100,000 from Huntley R. Drummond of Montreal to be used for the purpose of providing about one hundred and twenty-five Maxim guns, it being understood that these are to be in addition to those to be provided by the Militia Department for the use of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

HELP OF EVERY WORKMAN WILL BE REQUIRED

Lloyd George Says Trade Unionism Must Relax Rules to Help Empire in Crisis.

Liverpool, June 4 (9.45 p. m.).—Continuing his campaign for the organization of the munition trades of the country, and the speeding up of the output of shells and other war materials required by the army, David Lloyd George, the new minister of munitions, addressed meetings here today of employers and workmen.

He urged upon the workmen that for the duration of the war union regulations should be suspended, so that every available man and woman could be employed in the necessary work. "If every trade unionist," Mr. Lloyd George told the workmen, "was brought back from the front, and if they worked to the utmost limits of human endurance, there would not be enough labor to produce what the government is asking to have produced during the next few months."

Mr. Lloyd George added that as government red-tape had been cut, the trade unionists also must relax their rules. The country, he said, was demanding, as a matter of right, and not as a matter of appeal, that every one of its citizens should do his best, and he did not believe that there was any objection to it being made a legal right and duty.

PTE. ERNEST G. PARSONS OF WOODSTOCK N.B. IS IN CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, June 4.—The casualty list issued tonight by the Militia Department contains the name of Private Ernest G. Parsons, Woodstock, N. B., among those suffering from shock.

SIGNAL CORPS OF ARMY TO RIDE ON MOTORCYCLES



The United States Army has increased the equipment of motorcycles for the Signal Corps by the addition of seven new machines. The motorcycles will be for the use of despatch riders, telegraph operators and repair men on the field telegraph lines. The machines are painted an olive drab, corresponding with the uniform color of the army's equipment, and are fast and powerful.

MANY OFFER HOMES FOR CONVALESCENTS

Number of Residences Placed at Disposal of Militia Department for Soldiers Returning to Canada to Regain Health.

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Ont., June 4.—The list of offers of convalescent homes for invalided soldiers which have been received by the militia department is a remarkable one and shows the ready sympathy of people of means throughout the country. The majority of the offers are free of charge. As expected Ontario heads the list. In fact, the offers from Toronto and Western Ontario are greater than all the rest of Canada put together.

The St. John Golf Club offer their former quarters for a convalescent home free of charge. Mrs. J. K. L. Ross of Sydney offers to equip and maintain a convalescent home at her expense.

Amongst the latest offers are Miller Lash, W. H. Ellis, Stanley Mills, A. C. McIver, H. B. McDonalds, Henry Bertram, Lady Macdonald, W. B. Northrup, M. P. E. H. Salter, James Crowther, and scores of others from Ontario; D. Lorne McGibbon, Sir Hugh Graham, Mrs. J. L. Whelan, Wm. Dobell, Dr. L. F. Dubs, and others from Quebec; and B. Baerens, W. B. L. Lash, and others from the Empire of Winnipeg and the Red Cross Society of Calgary.

ALREADY MANY DEMANDS ON PENSION FUND

With Continuance of Present Rate of Casualties \$2,000,000 Appropriation Will be Used Before End of Year.

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Ont., June 4.—Some 250 applications for pensions for men who have been incapacitated and for the families of those who have been killed, have already been received.

With the heavy casualties now being reported among the Canadian troops it is evident that the \$2,000,000 appropriation for pensions will be more than used up before the end of the present fiscal year, March 31 next.

If, as seems likely, the war continues for some time yet, the yearly amount to be paid after the war is over promises to be a very large one.

Amongst recent contributions to the Canadian Patriotic Fund is one of \$10,000 from Berlin, Ont., which has a very large German population.

GERMANS SEND NEW TROOPS TO THE ARRAS YPRES LINE

HON. A. C. MACDONALD NEW LT.-GOVERNOR OF NOVA SCOTIA

Had Distinguished Career in Public Life and Member of Commons for Sixteen Years.

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, June 4.—Hon. A. C. MacDonald has been appointed Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island. He comes of a Highland family which has a distinguished record in the public life of the Island. Mr. MacDonald has had wide experience in public affairs, having served as a member of the House of Commons for about sixteen years.

TOBACCO SAVED LIVES OF MANY OF THE SOLDIERS

Men at Front Find Chew of Tobacco Great Help When They Inhale Poisonous Gases.

London, June 4.—That tobacco has literally saved the lives at the front is the statement made in a letter from a corporal of the Canadian artillery to a Suffolk clergyman. "What hurt us most," he writes, "was the poisonous gas, which made the air green and yellow, choking and poisoning men where they stood. Tobacco saved many lives in that battle. We began to feel choky, but put big chews in our mouths, and this caused us to expectorate the gas. Now whenever we notice the gas, we chew tobacco, which greatly helps."

LT.-COL. H. F. McLEOD LEAVING FOR FRANCE

Fredericton, June 4.—"Leaving for France tonight." That was the cable which Lt. Col. H. F. McLeod, M. P., sent to his wife, announcing that he was leaving England last night to join the First Canadian Division in Flanders. When the First Canadian Division was sent to France one brigade was left in England as reinforcements and to establish the Canadian training depot. The 12th Battalion was part of that brigade and the Colonel has since been engaged in fixing reinforcements for the front. He has suffered from a severe attack of bronchial pneumonia, but even this did not deter him in his desire to get to the front. He has since recovered his health.

In Effort to Check Movement of French Who are Punching Holes in Enemy's Line and Relieve Pressure Caused by British Attacks.

ITALIANS HAVE NOT YET REACHED MAIN FORCES OF THE AUSTRIANS.

Russians Endeavoring to Hold Line Formed by Rivers Wisnia, Dniester and Lower San Where Great Marshes of Dniester and Other Strong Natural Positions Favor Them.

London, June 4.—With the fall of Przemyśl, although this does not appear to be the limit of their efforts against the Russians in Galicia, the Germans have again turned their attention to the western front, and simultaneously in Flanders and the province of Artois, France, come official reports of their attacks on positions recently captured by the British and French.

They have succeeded in recovering some trenches taken by the British northeast of Givenchy, and have stormed the Chateau in the village of Hooze, part of which the British still hold, although for a time the British were compelled to evacuate the building which they had captured Monday night.

The Germans also claim to be in possession of the sugar refinery at Souchez, the loss of which they have not previously acknowledged. While these in themselves are considered small successes, it is believed that they are a resumption of fighting on a larger scale.

For some time it has been reported that the French were slowly driving out the Germans from strong positions north of Arras and were, in the words of an officer just returned from the front, "punching a hole in the German line."

To stop this movement, and also to relieve their troops who, according to the British accounts, were suffering very severely from British attacks and through their own counter-attacks, the Germans have despatched a lot of new troops to the Arras-Ypres line, and apparently are making an effort to take the initiative.

It is not believed here that any of these new detachments have been sent to the other across Germany.

Two Steamers And a Trawler Torpedoed

Canadian Freighter Iona of the Thomson Line Sunk on Way from Newcastle-on-Tyne to Montreal—No Passengers Aboard and No Loss of Life.

Montreal, June 4.—The Canadian freighter Iona, of the Thomson Line, was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the north coast of Scotland at noon yesterday but fortunately no lives were lost. The crew of about 54, with Captain Ritchie, took to the small boats when they saw that the steamer was doomed and they managed to land safely at Kirkwall, Scotland. There were no passengers on the Iona.

Word of the loss of the ship was received in Montreal this afternoon by the Robert Reford Company, agents for the Thomson Line, but no details were given. She left Newcastle-on-Tyne at 5 a. m. June 2nd, bound for Montreal with a general cargo.

The Iona was built in Dundee, Scotland in 1892, by Gourley Bros. & Company. Her gross tonnage was 3,344, and she had a speed of 12 knots. She was 360 feet long; beam 44 ft. 7 inches, depth of hold 26 feet 5 inches. She plied regularly between Montreal and England, carrying freight.

British Steamer Sunk.

Falmouth, June 4.—The British steamer Inkm, from New York to London, was torpedoed at 4.30 o'clock this morning forty-three miles southwest of Lizard Head. The crew was landed here by the Norwegian steamer Wendela.

No submarine had been observed when a terrible explosion shook the vessel, which began to settle. The crew took to the boats but the steamer settled so slowly that some of the

crews returned to the ship, hoping that they might save her. They noticed, however, the periscope of a submarine which discharged a second torpedo, completing the work of destruction.

The Inkm left New York on May 22 for London. She was 302 feet long and of 3,074 tons net. She was built at Glasgow in 1901 and was owned by the Gulf Transport Line of Liverpool.

Lowestoft, Eng., June 4.—The crew of a Lowestoft trawler were landed here today. They say that their vessel was stopped in the North Sea on Thursday evening by a German submarine. The crew was ordered into the boats, after which the trawler was sunk by bombs.

Crews Landed at Kirkwall.

Kirkwall, June 4.—The crews of two vessels which are declared to have been torpedoed by German submarines were landed here today—fifty-three men belonging to the Thomson Line steamer Iona, bound from Middlesbrough for Montreal and nine from the Aberdeen fishing steamer Chrysophorus.

The Iona was sunk twenty-four miles south of Fair Island, Scotland, being torpedoed after her crew had left her. The fishing steamer was sent to the bottom about forty-five miles off Stronsay, one of the Orkney Islands.

In each case it is alleged that the submarines shelled the boats as they were being launched. Two of the Iona's crew were seriously and two slightly wounded.