TUESDAY MORNING

high percentage of jams with their Ross rifle during a hostile attack on May 1, **DID NOT DELAY IN DISCARDING RIFLE** that no report reflecting on or con demning the Ross rifle was ever made

NO DATE YET SET FOR Correspondence on Ross Rifle IMPERIAL CONFERENCE Borden Has Asked British Govern-

> ment for More Definite Information.

Show Premier Took Step

NOT A RELIABLE ARM

bas Early.

NOT A RELIABLE ARM Rifle Did Not Work Well When British Ammunition Was Used. By a Staff Reporter. Ottawa, Ont. Jan. 22.—The cor-respondence betwen the imperial and Canàdian authorities regarding the communication as to the governor-general canàdian authorities regarding the communication as to the questions mons today shows that as early as March 30. 1916, Sir Robert Borden as the result of rumors which had reach-ed his ears, took the initial step which ied to the abandonment of the Ross rifie as the weapon of the Canadian troops, but when it had been decided to replace it with the new Lee-Enfield the old Lee-Enfield having been disthe result of rumors which had reached this ears, took the initial step which led to the abandonment. of the Ross rifie as the weapon of the Canadian troops, but when it had been decided to replace it with the new Lee-Enfield the old Lee-Enfield having been dis-carded also, they were confronted with the fact that no other rific could be secured. Indeed, so lately was this tho case that on August 30 last. the Duke of Connaught, on behalt of the govern-ment, cabled Bonar Law, desiring to be informed as to the report which had reached them that the Fourth Can-dian Division has been armed with the Ross rifie when recently despatched the Ross rifle when recently despatched to France.

Bonar Law, on Sept. 7, replied as follows: "The fourth division were sent to France armed with the Ross rifle, but Led-Enfields have since been sent to France for the purpose of re-arming them. The re-arming should be completely performed by now."

French's Report. The reports of Sir John French and Sir Douglas Haig are contained in the correspondence. That of Sir John French was sent to the war office on June 19, 1915. He said: "I had heard rumors that the Canadians were tak-ing every opportunity of exchanging their rifles with those of Lec-Enfield from casualties on the field. I gave instructions for a small committee to instructions for a small committee to iest that rifle, including Canadian am-munition obtained from Fingland, none having been sent to France for use with the Ross rifle. In view of the unanimous opinion of the committee that the Ross rifle could not be relied upon to work smoothly and efficiently upon to work smoothly and efficiently in rapid fire with any ammunition other than that of Canadian ammuni-facture, that no Canadian ammuni-tion was available, and owing to the tion was available, and owing to the want of confidence in the rifle, one-third of the division having armed themselves with the Ross rifle, I did ston into battle with the Ross rifle, and ordered rearming before they went into action on June 15. I would ducts a close second with \$217,841,000 for ine months, with ,agricultural ducts & close second with \$217,454

that so far as I can judge the am-Heavy Exportsnot suitable for use with the Ross rifle, and there is a large and grow-ing feeling of want of confidence ir this rifle on the part of the The exports of animal products also show a substantial increase for the rine months with \$93,586,000, as against \$78,559,000; products of the mines, rifle on the part of the men in Canadian division, which is amply as against \$49.034.000: \$63.725.000. fisheries, \$18,075,000, against \$16.103,justified by the report of the con 000, and the forest \$46.138,000 against

clared for the three months enging the 2sth of section, same will be payable at the head office and branches on the let day of March, 1917. The transfer books will be of February to the 2sth of February, 1917, both days in By order of the Board. J. COOPEER MASON, Toronto, January 17th, 1917. Acting

Acting General Manager.

THE TORONTO WORLD

War's Disappointments.

CH SATER 1854

LAURIER DEFERS

THE

(Continued From Page One).

Wilfrid said, in dealing with the prob-lems that confronted the country. Sir Wilfrid's Offer. Sir Wilfrid had nothing to say about the proposed extension of the parlia-mentary term, but suggested that con-sideration of the government proposal should be deferred until after Sir Rob-ert Borden's return fom England He should be deferred until after Sir Rob-ert Borden's return fom England, He thought that the prime minister should attend the imperial conference and if controversial subjects could be post-poned until after his return the oppo-sition would gladly vote the war credit and the necessary supply and consent to any adjournment of the house that would facilitate the prime minister's trip to England.

sition would gladly vote the war credit and the necessary supply and consent to any adjournment of the house that would facilitate the prime ministers trip to England.
Mu thes Interrupts Errden.
Sir Robert Borden in reply said that he could not formally accept the proposals of the leader of the opposition until after consultation with his colleages. At the moment, he could only say that they appeared to be quite reasonable. He resented with some heat the suggestion that he was lacking in the qualities of firmness and decision, and recalled the wobbing and inconsistent course pursued by Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the out break of the South African war.
Several times during the prime minister's speech he was interrupted by his former minister of militia with something like flat contradictions, especially in relation to the refusu of the British Bovernment to confirm the appointment of General Sam Steele to the command of the second division. Each interruption caused a moment, but he was suing for peace as did the victorious Napoleen when in possession of Moscow.
Criticism of Government. After paying an eloquent tribute to the second division. Each interruption caused a moment, but he was suing for peace as did the victorious Napoleen when an soldiers or munistions, namely, far moment, but he was suing for peace as did the victorious Napoleen when an soldiers of Moscow.

people of Dorchester

cers were justified in scrapping this equipment it was up to Sir Sam to explain why he had sent worthless equipment to England. If they were not justified in throwing the Cana-dian equipment aside, if it was of the best quality, then it was up to the prime minister to explain why for ten months he permitted this carnival of waste to continue. Stands by Dr. Sruce. Referring to the controversy over the military hospitals. Sir Wilfrid said that he would venture no opinion ex-cept to say that any report signed by were justified in scrapping this

that he would venture no opinion ex-cept to say that any report signed by Dr. Bruce must command respect. Dr. Bruce, he said, was an eminent sur-geon and the soul of honor. Mr. Kemp however, had appointed a commission which contradicted every finding made by Dr. Brüce, praising whatever he condemmed and condemming whatever he commended. He referred to the hos-pital scandals and to the controversy over the scrapping of Canadian equip-ment and other matters con-tained in the Borden-Hughes corres-pondence, not in a partisan spirit, but to call attention to the fact that the government of the day lacked unity of government of the day lacked unity of purpose which caused the administra-tion of public affairs to become lax and threw the entire service into confu-

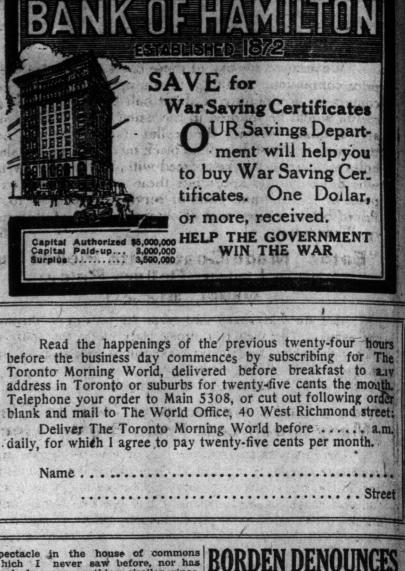
Would Avoid Controversy

Sir Wilfrid said he would discuss the question of national service and the requestion of national service and the re-quest for an extension of the parlia-mentary term when those subjects came before the house. In the mean-time he desired to say that the prime minister should by all means attend the imperial conference. He should go as soon as he could and stay as long as he thought necessary. If the govern-ment would postpone all controversial subjects, he was ready to say for the opposition that the war credit would be War's Disappointments. Sir Wilfrid said that their excellen-cies came to Canada at a time when there was little room for congratula-tion. The campaign of 1916 had not justified the hopes which its com-mencement had generated. Early in 1916 the crown prince had been driven back defeated and baffled from Ver-dun leaving dead upon the field five opposition that the war credit would be voted without delay and the supply necessary to carry on the government during the prime minister's absence and that the h ouse could then be ad-journed for a sufficient period to facili-tate Sir Robert Borden's trip to Eng-land

Borden's Reply.

Sir Robert Borden was greeted with

Sir Robert Borden was greeted with tremendous splause when he arose to address the house. After paying a tribute to the Duke of Connaught, the prime minister, in answer to Mr. Wil-son of Wentworth, said that while the Camadian people no doubt would welcame the entrance of Newfound-land into the confederation the initia-tive rested wholly with that country. He believed Sir Wilfrid had been somewhat peesimistic in his remarks anent the progress of the war during the past year. While his statements were in no way official, he was pre-pund to say that very good progress had been made in 1916. Germany's successes, he declared, were more spectacular than material.



JANUARY 23 1917

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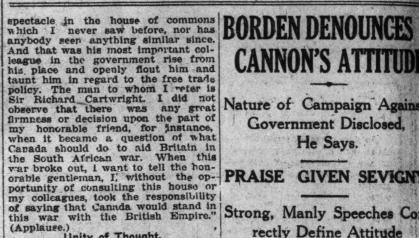
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EXPORTS TREMENDOUS

Agricultural Products Run Manufactured Articles Close

Race for Leadership.

By a Staff Reporter. Ottawa, Jan. 22 .- Canadian trade for the nine months of the present fiscal year reached the enormous total of \$1,700,563,269, according to the monthly statement issued today by Hon. Dr. Reid, minister of customs. For the corresponding months of 1915 the total Canadian trade was \$1.012,486,000. The statement shows the great ac tivity of the export trade of the Do-minion. The total exports for the nine months ended Dec. 31 last of Canadian products were \$861.629,000, as against \$511,534,000 for the corresponding period of the previous year. Of the exports domestic manufactured ar-ticles lead with \$217,841,000 for the

observe that I have never condemred the Ross rifle, nor have I sufficient data to justify me in doing so. I have expressed and acted upon the opinion data to justify me in doing so. I have the result of the same period of 1915 were: Manufactures. \$119.399,000, and agriculture. \$202,506,000.



\$42,184,000. Haid's Report.

Haig's Report. Sir Douglas Haig, having made thoro test at the earnest request of Sir Robert Borden, reported to the war dutiable goods and \$272,075.000 free Sir Douglas Haig, having made thoro test at the earnest request of Sir Robert Borden, reported to the war dutiable goods and \$272,075.000 free Brome, who was recently killed in acoffice on May 28, 1916, as follows: "I goods. The imports for the same pe-have satisfied myself after extensive riod of 1915 were \$197,950.000 dutiable inquirles carried out thruout the Can-adian corps, that as a service rifle the total of \$343,923.000. Duty col'ected was Ross is less trustworthy than the Lee-Enfield, and that the majority of the For the month of December For the month of December last. men armed with the Ross rifle have not the exports, exclusive of coin and bul-the confidence in it that is so essential lion. were \$130 037,000, and the imports they should possess. The inquiry on \$68,014,000, while for December, 1915, which these conclusions are based was the exports were \$92,171,000, and the the outcome of an urgent application imports \$15,690,000. from a battalion of the Third Canadian The increase in exports over import

Division for re-armament with the for the nine months, exclusive of coin short Lee-Enfield in consequence of a ard bullion, was \$253.763,000.



hemia, and the union of Bosnia and Herzegovina with Serbia, of Translyvania with Rumania, and of Italia Irridenta with Italy. The pudiate the statement of his candi-policy of President Wilson is in brief the denial of the rights of na-date, Mr. Cannon, that national sertionalities and the support of such a polyglot empire as Austria- vice meant conscription. Personally, Hungary Hungary.

* * * * * In urging the freedom of the seas President Wilson has merely accepted another German object in the war. He has adopted it entirely from the pro-paganda of Von Dernburg and the speeches of Von Bethmann-Hollweg. In dectaring that the question of limiting naval armaments opens the wider and, perhaps, more difficult question of the limitation of armies and of all progress in military preparation, President Wilson seems to aim at restricting British naval power first, no matter whether he restricts German land power or not. In favoring the assigning to every great, people now struggling towards a full development of its resources and its powers a direct outlet on the great high-ways of the sea, Wilson in practice means that Austria-Hungary shall preserve Trieste as her outlet on the Adriatic and probably shall obtain an outhet on the Aegean, and that Germany is to have Antwerp, either in fact, or i het on the Aegean, and in theory, in practice.

The president then gives his whole scheme an ironic touch by saying that particularly fortunace in her goverhe is proposing that the nations should with one accord adopt the doctrine of nor-generals. They were, without ex-President Monroe as the doctrine of the world. The celebrated Monroe mas- ception, men of high character and President Monroe as the doctrine of the world. The celebrated monroe has great ability. When they left our sage, which German statesmen have called an international impertinence, was great ability. When they left our shores they had carried with them the shores they had carried with them the the prompted by the action of a league to enforce peace, such as the president now proposes. That league was formed in 1815 on the initiative of Czar Alexander of Russia. Its object appeared as righteous as the object of Presi-dent Wilson appears to himself. In five years that league, called the Holy Allionce become the word endine of the second cratic movements on the European continent for many years. When the fant republics in South America, Great Britain threatened to introduct the in-of Connaught. He had control the factors and the second to interview of the second to the second tothe second to the second to the seco Alliance, became the worst engine of tyranny ever known in the world. By proposing to keep an iron-clad status quo, the league suppressed all demopowers of the roly analyse at last moved towards the suppression of the in-fant republics in South America, Great Britain threatened to intervene, and she induced President Monroe to send his celebrated message to congress. This stopped the aggression.

A year ago Germany industriously circulated rumors from Switzerland that she had raised a fresh army of two million troops. She had done no-thing of the kind. This year the same old rumors are revived from Holland, "There is ground for the belief." Sir only her agents now place her new forces at 120 divisions. ; It is the same old propaganda to influence President Wilson to interfere to stop the war. 2/2 25 客

Little military news has developed in the past 24 hours. On the western front the British beat off two German raids near Arras and Ploegsteert, and the French engaged in lively artillery actions before Verdun in Rumania the Russians repulsed an attack in the Oituz Valley. In East Africa the British have nearly overrun the whole country.

Instead of attacking France thru Switzerland, Germany, rumors from Holland say, is about to attack Verdun again, and the time given is this week. It is guite in accordance with German character to attack and attack, if not to advance, at least to forestall an off:ensive, and so it would not be wisdom to regard her advertising as entirely a bluff. The fact that two enemy atto regard her advertising as entirely a bluff. The fact that two enemy at-tacks launched in this region yesterday suffered repulses from the French suggests that the German higher command is concerned in this advertising of a coming western offensive. By turning to the west again for decisive re-sults German, would confess that it was futile for her to attack the Russians in the effect. in the east.

rel to become a public scandal and one liable to cause confusion in the service? We knew that Sir Sam Hughes perial affairs than she had during the past three years. The pcople of Wentworth, he said, were unanimous in their desire to have all our ener-gies concentrated in carrying on the war, and therefore did not want to see a war-time election. Descarries Challenges Laurier. Mr. Descarries in secondars the

vrote to the prime minister complaining that he was hampered by the ap. pointment of innumerable commis

Mr. Descarries, in seconding the address, spoke in French and referred sions. He declared that the military n, the national ser hospitals commiss to the Dorchester by-election. Ha called upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier to re vice commission and the pension board looked fine on paper but had broken down in practice. He further com-plained that he had been hampered

by his colleagues and that the de-spatch of the second division oversea had been held up four months by petty conscription could conscitutionally he established without first consulting haggling over patronage. The governthe people. It was not, in his opinion. ment. according to Sir Sam, had in

a live question, because conscription was unnecessary. Evidently, he said. sisted upon buying motor trucks at an extravagant price to provide commis Mr. Cannon was trying to frighten the sions for local agents. If he had waited for orders in council, the first Cana-Ovation Given Laurier. dian contingent would still be at Val-

cartler. Puts Blame on Premier.

Ovation Given Laurier. Sir Willed Laurier, upon rising, wa. given a hearty ovation by his followers. He referred in the most complimentary terms to the two speeches already delivered. The re-The prime minister, Sir Wilfrid coninued, in the course of his correspon marks of Mr Wilson in reference to dence with the former minister of milithe Duke of Connaught were, in tia. complained that his time was wasted and his energies dissipated by cp nion, "timely and well conceived." Canada, Sir Wilfrid said, had been petty squabbles that were going on around him. But who was to blame? In the opinion of SirtWilfrid, the one man to blame for that situation was the prime minister himself. He should have promptly decided every question that came before him. The ex-minisgratitude, esteem and respect of all classes of the Canadian people. But it was no disparagement of his predcter had declared that vast stores of Canadian equipment were scrapped as scon as they arrived in England. For ten months this thing had gone of Connarght. He had earned that gratitude and estrem by his high sense gratitude and estrem by his high sense ada and they kept on scrapping and of honor, his devotion to duty and scrapping in England. (Applause and his democratic ways. Nor could any- laughter.) thing too eulogistic be said of his We kept buying and buying in Can-

Economy and Waste

Fir Wilfrid said that Sir Thomas White had constituted himself a modern Peter the Hermit to preach crusade for (conomy, but while Wilfrid continued, "that the Duke of was preaching economy, out while he was preaching economy in Canadu millions of Canudian money was be-ing wasted in England. He made this statement on the authority of Sir Sam Hughes, who declared the Connaught accepted the governorgeneralship at a great personal sacri-fice and in the public interest. He only intended to remain with us for two years, and was preparing to leave when the war broke out. Then it was Sir Sam Hughes, who declared the Canaotan equipment was absolutely the best, but that the British officers arbitrarily and unreasonably threw it all into the scrapheap. This was a serious charge against British offi-cers, the correctness of which Sir announced that he would retain the governor-generalship until the close of the war. But upon the expiry of his five years' term, he relinquished the duties of his office and his successor was appointed for reasons, no doubt sufficient, but never explained to the people of Canada.

Welcomes Governor-General. "The king is dead, long live the kirg." In the spirit of this old saying Sir Wilfrid Laurier continued: "We

together with increasing business of numition making.

Sir Sam Hughes-"The date Extension of Term.

Extension of Term. Referring to the proposal in the which reference was made was in Oc-speech from the throne for an exten-sion of parliament, Sir Robert said: "The reasons for which I advanced trocps were British regulars. Will "The reasons for which I advanced the prime minister not say that I in-formed him immediately upon my re-turn to Canada" that proposal last year are equally cogent today. I stated to the house at that time the view which had been taken in the press, taken by certain honcollection of it.' orable gentlemen on the other side of the house and the leader of the opposition emphasized the undesirability of having an election during the progress of the war, going so far as to say that while he did not place the greatof the war, going so far as to say that while he did not place the great-est confidence in the government. yet he never intended to open the door to be never intended to open the door to

he never intended to open the door to office with the bloody key. Conditions Canadian Government." today are such as to make that ob-Sir Sam Hughes. "Has the prime servation no less cogent at this time. Continuing on the same subject he pointed out that a war-time election would disfranchise hundreds of thou sands of soldier voters. He did not believe provision could be made to have the overseas men cast their votes because in the midst of one of the fierd est drives of the war the paymaster could not be expected to stop his mer long enough to have them mark a balot.

Cabinet Differences.

Dealing with Sir Wilfrid's criticism of the government's work during the progress of the war, Sir Robert first twitted the opposition leader upon se-lecting in an address at a recruiting meeting, the inspiring topic of his laci of confidence in the government and minister of militia.

reminding the audience that Great Bri. tain in 1870 did not come to the aid

his suggestion to vote sufficient funds to carry on the business of the country and hold over important subjects until after the war council. "At present," of France. Concerning the dissension in the cabinet, he said: "My right honorable friend has had experience in that conhe said, "there seems to be no reason-able objection to that proposal. But I cannot speak definitely on the matter until I consult my colleagues." nection himself and he might be speak ing with authority. I recollect one prominent colleague in his own government who used to say publicly that they fought like blazes. In any cabi-net there are differences of opinion and differences of temperament. He seems to feel considerable confidence in himself as head of a government because he arrives at the conclusion

until I consult my colleagues." In conclusion Sir Robert said that when he attended the war council in England he knew he carried the man-date of the Canadian people that they were in the struggle until a victorious peace was concluded. He said so far as Canada was concerned she did not want any inconclusive peace, and stood for reparation in so far as was within the limits of the wealth of the German Elempire, to Belgium, Serbia, Rumania cers, the correctness of which Sir because he arrives at the conclusion peace was concluded. He sate so that will have not enough firmness." as Canada was concerned she did not the government. Either the Canadis Old Spectacle. The government was all that it should might not justily my right honorable for reparation in so far as was within friend in putting his head in the air and launching that statement. I want to tell him that in 1902 I observed a territories had not been invaded.

Fred Brown, 432 Eastern avenue, had one of his legs broken when thrown from his sleigh at the corner of Stacey and Drayton streets last night. He was taken home in the police ambulance. Ten-year-old Walter Towner, 169 Jones avenue, also sustained a broken leg while sleighing near his home. He was removed to the Hospital for Sick Children in the police ambulance. land were merely British regulars.

THE NATIONAL CHORUS.

Friday Evening's Concert in Hands of Military Authorities.

Sir Robert Borden-"I have no re-Many requests are being made to the National Cherus for seats for the great inditary concert on Friday evening, fol-lowing the regular concert on Thursday, but the arrangements for the second event are ontirely in the hands of the millitary suthorities and no tickots are being issued. There will be 2750 soldlers present from the convalescent homes and various units stationed in Toronto, and 350 girl guides will grace the perform-ence. Mr. Morgan Kingston will assist the chorus on both evenings. Sir Sam Hughes-"No recollection of my placing his remarks before you?" Sir P.obert Borden--"No, I have no fficers any disposition to override the

Y.M.C.A. WANTS GRANT.

Sir Sam Hughes. "Has the printe minister any recollection of objection made to Col. Steele, now general com-manding the second division?" Sir Robert Borden: "Objection was to his advanced "age and in that the late minister of militia concurred." Sir Robert Borden: "Objection was to his advanced 'age and in that the late minister of militia concurred." Sir Sam Hughes: "The objection was that he was unfit and I never concurred." Steele had a fall from his horse and was otherwise injured. I did not think then that he should be called upon to

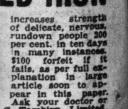
then that he should be called upon to CHARGED WITH THEFT

Horace Globs, 88 John street, was ar-rested last night by Detective Wickett on a charge of stealing small sums of money from the pockets of workmen at the Can-ada Foundry Company's works, where he was employed Canadian Promotions. In response to a question from Mr. MacDonald (Picton) Sir Robert said that all Canadian promotions had to go thru the hands of Sir George Perley. was In England he had the powers of

HON. J. G. H. BERGERON DEAD. Thanks Laurier. Sir Robert thanked Sir Willfrid for

Montreal, Jan. 22 .- Hon. J. G. H Bergeron, postmaster of Montreal, and former deputy-Speaker of the house of commons, died here this afte He was born at Rigaud, Que., in 1854.

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