

The Semi-Weekly Telegram

The News

HOPE TO DODGE SHELL INQUIRY

Borden Government Expects British Authorities Will Frown on Investigation

HAS CABLED LONDON?

Reply Hoped for That Will Stave Off Any Necessity for Granting Liberals' Demands That Ministers' Contracts Should Be Probed—Canada Interested as She is to Pay Her Share of the Cost.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Ottawa, Jan. 24.—The government which has indicated through Hon. Arthur Meighen, that it will not allow any parliamentary investigation of the operations of the shell companies, it is understood, cabled to Right Hon. Lloyd George for a statement from him as to the wishes of the imperial government in the matter.

It is stated in government circles that a reply is expected from the minister of munitions intimating that as far as the imperial government is concerned, it is understood, cabled to Right Hon. Lloyd George for a statement from him as to the wishes of the imperial government in the matter.

As has already been pointed out in the debate, Canada will have to pay her proportion of the cost of the munitions ordered by the shell companies, since the Canadian troops used in the operations are being charged up by the imperial government with the part so used, and at the prices paid by the London treasury.

BRIDGETOWN, N. S., MAN KILLED IN ACTION WITH 25TH

Ottawa, Jan. 24.—The names of five Nova Scotians appear in last night's casualty lists, all in the Twenty-Fifth Battalion, one of whom, Company Sergeant Major William R. McLeod, of Bridgetown, was killed in action. The rest were wounded.

Lieut.-Col. Henry Brydges Yates, of Number 6 General Hospital is reported dead. He is a native of England.

The list follows:

TENTH BATTALION.

Wounded—John Swain, Fense (Sask.).

SIXTEENTH BATTALION.

Wounded—Sergeant Henry W. R. Gammel, Winnipeg.

Slightly wounded—John Alexander, Regina (Sask.).

TWENTY-FIRST BATTALION.

Wounded—Corporal John Grieve, Co. Bourne (Ont.); Albert Clemett, Toronto.

Died of wounds—Edward H. B. Cambridge, Toronto.

TWENTY-SECOND BATTALION.

Wounded—Theodore Despaul, Upton (Que.); Armand Bigras, Montreal.

TWENTY-FIFTH BATTALION.

Killed in action—COMPANY SERGEANT MAJOR WILLIAM R. McLEOD, BRIDGETOWN, ANNO DOMINI CO. (N. S.).

Wounded—SERGEANT HENRY YATES, SYDNEY MINES (N. S.); EDWARD J. PARKES, 182 NORTH STREET, HALIFAX (N. S.).

Suffering from shell shock—SERGEANT JOHN F. HENRY, 3 BLACK STREET, HALIFAX (N. S.).

Wounded—GEORGE L. ATWOOD, GASTON ROAD, DARK MOUTH (N. S.).

TWENTY-EIGHTH BATTALION.

Dangerously wounded—Louis R. Duff, Toronto.

THIRTY-SIXTH BATTALION.

Died—Sam. Bottomley, Stratford (Ont.).

FORTY-SECOND BATTALION.

Slightly wounded—Thomas P. Danwood, Montreal.

NUMBER THREE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Died—LIEUT.-COL. HENRY BRYDGES YATES, ENGLAND.

GERMAN DESTROYER SHADOWS STRAMER IN SWEDISH WATERS.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1916

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FRENCH STEADILY WINNING BACK POSITIONS LOST IN WEST; 'PREPARE FOR WAR' WILSON WARNS U.S. IN FIGHTING SPEECH

LIVELY BOMBARDMENTS AND INFANTRY ATTACKS TURN IN ALLIES' FAVOR

Paris, Jan. 27, via London, 4.06 p. m.—The following statement was given out at the war office this afternoon:

"In the Artois district last night there was spirited cannonading in the sector of Neuville-St. Vaast. In the vicinity of the road from Neuville to Lafolie we continued to recapture progressively the listening posts and craters in which the enemy had obtained a footing. We found there numerous bodies of Germans, and one machine gun. We also took several prisoners.

"In the Argonne district we caused the explosion successfully of two mines, one near Haute Chevauchee, and the other in the vicinity of Vatuquies."

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE ON BELGIAN DUNES.

The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

"During the course of the day there was considerable activity by our artillery on the whole front. In Belgium a destructive fire, directed against the German trenches situated in front of Boesinghe and between Stenstraete and Petras, caused serious damage to our adversary.

"In Artois, to the east of Neuville-St. Vaast, the enemy attempted by a counter-attack to re-take the craters from which we drove him in the course of the night, but was completely repulsed. To the north of the Aisne our trench guns shattered the organizations at La Ville-Bols.

"In the Argonne mine-fighting continued to our advantage; between Hill 285 and Haute Chevauchee, we exploded two mines. The enemy suffered serious losses in the struggle, which followed for the capture of the crater, one of the aims of which we hold.

"One of our long-range guns took under fire an enemy convoy which had entered Mangiennes, to the northwest of Etain."

ORGANIZED BOMBARDMENTS FROM BRITISH LINES.

London, Jan. 27, 10.51 p. m.—The following official communication was issued tonight:

"Early this morning we exploded a mine opposite Givenchy. Organized bombardments have been carried out on several portions of the hostile line. The hostile artillery has been active today east and northeast of Ypres, south of the Bois Grenier, northeast of Armentieres, and northeast of Ypres. Our artillery retaliated successfully on the hostile batteries and trenches."

TURKS FIND IT TOO HOT.

General Townshend, commanding the British forces invested at Kut-el-Amara, has reported that the Turks have evacuated their trenches at the defenses of Kut-el-Amara, and have retired, generally speaking, to about a mile from the British entrenchments. It was officially announced here today.

No change in the situation was reported by General Aylmer, commanding the British column that has been marching to the relief of the Kut-el-Amara garrison.

BRITISH PARTY STILL CAPTIVES.

The following official announcement was made here today:

"A report received today from Egypt states that there are ninety-five survivors of the Tara at present in the hands of the Senusis. They are being well treated. An attempt is being made to send them clothing, etc."

RUSSIANS IN SUCCESSFUL BAYONET ATTACK.

Petrograd, via London, Jan. 27, 11.25 p. m.—The following official communication was issued from general headquarters today:

"On the western (Russian) front German aeroplanes continued to make frequent flights over the Riga and Dyvink regions, where they dropped bombs. Southwest of Lake Narochka our scouting parties encountered the enemy successfully. They made a surprise bayonet attack on a German detachment and put it to flight, inflicting heavy losses and taking prisoners.

"Southeast of Kotki our scouts got through the enemy entanglements and destroyed it with grenades.

"In Galicia, on the Middle Stripa, the enemy continued his artillery fire. On the Diester, in the region of Uzeskoto, near the bridgehead, we attacked the enemy with grenades. North of the Boyana river the enemy, after exploding three mines in front of our lines, made several attempts to attack, but were repulsed by our fire.

"Caucasus front: In the region of Erzerum we stopped attempts by the Turks to assume the offensive, capturing prisoners. In the region of Melagheet we successfully encountered Turkish detachments."

GERMANS CLAIM GAINS.

Berlin, Jan. 27, via wireless to Sayville.—The German attack on the French positions near Neuville, was resumed yesterday, and according to the war office statement of today, between 800 and 600 yards of the French lines were captured. The statements follow:

"Western front: The enemy's artillery shelled German positions on the sand dunes along the seacoast. At the same time hostile monitors shelled the Westende (Belgium) district. Both attacks were without effect.

"After exploding mines, the Germans made an attack on both sides of the road between Vimy and Neuville and stormed French positions between 500 and 600 yards long. They captured one officer, 22 men, one machine gun and three mine-throwers. Counter-attacks made by the enemy against these places and other trenches taken by the Germans during the last few days resulted in spirited fighting with hand-grenades but were without success for the enemy.

"The city of Lens was shelled heavily by the enemy.

"Eastern front: Small detachments of Germans and Austrians from the army of Gen. Von Linsingen engaged in successful enterprises."

The official German report, as received by way of London, contains the following which was omitted from the wireless version:

"In the Argonne fierce artillery battles occurred at times.

"The situation on the Balkan front is unchanged."

Only Skirmishes, Say Turks.

Constantinople, Jan. 27, via Berlin.—The Turkish headquarters staff today gave out the following statement:

LONELY LIFE AT END OF THE LINE

Remarkably Placid Scene at Extreme Point of Right Wing of French

SWITZERLAND BEGINS WHERE WAR ENDS

Swiss Soldier With Fixed Bayonet Is the Visible Sign That Neutral Territory is at His Back—Always on Lookout.

Headquarters, French Armies on West Front, Jan. 27.—The British official eye-witness writes:

"What will the adventurous person who attempts to walk along the French front trenches find when he reaches the right flank, the extreme point of the French right wing?"

He will find a barb wire fence no more formidable than those which enclose many English meadows. After the vast and complicated fields of barb wire which protect the trenches this fence seems abnormally insignificant and trifling to the counterpart of the North Sea, which terminates the lines at the extreme other end.

There are a few pieces of red and white canvas tied to the wire to show that at this point the neutral territory of Switzerland begins, and a single Swiss sentry stands with bayonet fixed behind his back, and the Germans have many lookout posts, consequently the screens are sometimes on the left, sometimes on the right and sometimes on both sides, and one begins to feel that the Germans are everywhere.

One drives to the Swiss frontier through the "Trousse de Belfort," the broad gap between the Vosges and the Jura, which offers an inviting passage into France to the invader from the east. One passes it full speed along roads protected from German eyes by tall screens of brushwood. The roads are winding, and the Germans have many lookout posts, consequently the screens are sometimes on the left, sometimes on the right and sometimes on both sides, and one begins to feel that the Germans are everywhere.

By a sentry box there stands a man who the French call "the man of the extreme right," the sentry who guards the furthest point of the French right wing. He is a douanier, a custom house officer. So long as he stands there on duty with fixed bayonet he is in perfect safety, but as soon as he is relieved and goes away to rest in the neighboring village he enters the danger zone and may at any time get into the neighborhood of a German shell.

The trenches are hidden in a wood five hundred yards away, and one might think that the place was quite without defence, but nothing has been left to chance and the French are ready for any emergency. The Swiss sentry salutes politely as the traveler approaches the boundary and a Swiss sergeant comes out from the neighboring guard house to examine the papers.

After a little conversation across the fence that divides Switzerland from France the sergeant proceeds to the locality which he calls "opening the frontier." Half the barrier across the road is moved aside and replaced by a large wooden table. From the French side there appear peasant women with large baskets, their papers are examined by the "man of the extreme right" and they are allowed to pass up to the counter.

The Swiss government allows the peasants in the French frontier villages to buy provisions and the like from the Swiss shop-keepers, who bring their wares to the frontier, provided that certain articles do not go out of the country.

"Enemy aviators dropped bombs on Ala in the Legarino Valley, on Roncagno and Boyoro, in the Sugana Valley, but without damage.

"Our artillery destroyed observation posts in the Franca Valley, and at Monte Nero."

"In the Gorizia zone the enemy offensive was stopped, our troops holding firmly occupied positions. Detachments of the enemy, which were reported marching towards the Isonzo bridge, were scattered by our artillery.

"On the Carso front, on Wednesday, one of our detachments, by a surprise attack toward the San Martino church, gained ground which was promptly strengthened and held."

"Taking up passports of returning Americans."

New York, Jan. 27.—Acting on instructions from Washington, customs inspectors here yesterday began to take up the passports of all American citizens returning from abroad. This is said to be another step to prevent fraudulent use of passports.

COMPULSION BILL GOES INTO EFFECT IN GREAT BRITAIN

Royal Assent Gives Statutory Force With Prorogation of Parliament

NEXT STEP IS TO COMPEL INVESTMENT

New Budget Likely to Call for Certain Proportion of Subscriptions to War Loan from Every Community—Workers Decide Not to Appeal Against Bill.

SINGLE MEN CALLED UP TO 30 YEARS.

London, Jan. 28, 4.04 a. m.—Single men of the ages from 27 to 30 years, enrolled under Lord Derby's compulsory scheme, will be called up Feb. 4.

London, Jan. 27, 9.08 p. m.—The royal assent and other formalities giving statutory force to the Military Service Bill, the Trading with the Enemy Bill, and the bill proroguing the life of parliament, were concluded in the house of lords today, and parliament was prorogued until Feb. 15.

At the resuming next month, after an unusually short recess, the house of commons, owing to the necessity for financing the war, will be preoccupied most exclusively with new proposals in financial matters. A new war-credit vote will be necessary, as the sums already voted will be exhausted before the end of February. It is understood that the budget will be submitted at the earliest possible moment, and that it is likely to contain drastic new taxation proposals to include compulsory schemes for compulsory investment in the war loan of a proportion of the earnings of the community, the aim being thus to reach the greatly enhanced earnings of workers engaged in the manufacture of munitions and other government necessities.

German Not Interfering in Belgian Relief.

London, Jan. 27, 6 p. m.—The doubt which appears to have arisen in some quarters, as to whether Germany controlled the relief work in Belgium, was voted in the house of commons today by Sir Charles Henry, who asked Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs, whether further supplies of food and other commodities should be sent to Belgium and upon being assured that further supplies were necessary, asked as a condition that there was no German control.

Stating that more relief was needed, Lord Robert said that as the German government had expressed its intention not to support the Belgian population, the British government believed it to be its duty to facilitate the work of the relief commission, but "only as long as that work was carried on under adequate neutral supervision, completely independent of German control, and in compliance with conditions laid down, from time to time, by his majesty's government."

The parliamentary under-secretary stated that he was sure he could be under the circumstances, that the Germans were exercising no control.

No Agitation for Relief.

Bristol, England, Jan. 27, 5.45 p. m.—The Labor Congress adopted, by a vote of 1,716,000 against 820,000, a declaration opposing the Military Service Bill, which has been passed by parliament. A proposal to agitate for its repeal was defeated by 649,000 against 614,000.

Runciman Confirms Luxuries' Embargo.

London, Jan. 27.—Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade in the British cabinet, has informed parliament that in order to relieve the pressure on shipping and make room in vessels for additional imports of foodstuffs, fuel, munitions and other essentials, restrictions against importation of certain goods will be put into effect by the government.

The delay in the work on the central section of the railway is due to the severity of the weather, and inability to get through equipment over the rough country at this season. In the most favorable circumstances, it will not be finished before next autumn, and the most sanguine calculations place the forwarding of goods into the interior of Russia at about ten months hence, and that these goods now lie in that port without any chance of going forward until the new railway is completed, or until transshipment can be made to Archangel. The White Sea and Archangel will not be open to traffic until some time in May. To send vessels in ballast to Ekaterina to load for Archangel, it is declared, will involve heavy expense. The freight rate on shipments to Archangel from American ports just prior

"WE SHALL NOT LAY DOWN OUR ARMS UNTIL WE HAVE VINDICATED... CIVILIZATION"

London, Jan. 27.—Parliament was prorogued today until Feb. 15. In the prorogation King George said:

"We shall not lay down our arms until we have vindicated the cause which carries with it the future of civilization."

The speech of the king probably was the briefest on record on such occasions, but his references to the war were regarded as highly important.

"For eighteen months my navy and army have been engaged in concert with brave and steadfast Allies, in defending our common liberties and the public law of Europe against unprovoked aggressions by the enemy," he said.

"I am sustained by the determination of my people at home and overseas to carry our flag to a final decisive victory. In this struggle, forced upon us by those who hold in light esteem the liberties and covenants which we regard as sacred, WE SHALL NOT LAY DOWN OUR ARMS UNTIL WE HAVE VINDICATED THE CAUSE WHICH CARRIES WITH IT THE FUTURE OF CIVILIZATION."

"I rely with confidence upon the loyal and united efforts of all my subjects, which have never failed me, and I pray that Almighty God may give us His blessing."

The king thanked the house of commons for the ungrudging liberality with which it has provided for the heavy demands of the war. The speech was read by Baron Buckmaster of Cheddington, the lord high chancellor.

GOEBEN ONCE MORE "SERIOUSLY DAMAGED" IN NAVAL ENGAGEMENT

Russians Report Officially 33 Killed and 80 Wounded on Board Former German Cruiser—Greek Islands No Longer Refuge for Submarines—King Nicholas in Pompadour's House—Delay on New Railway.

Petrograd, Jan. 27, via London, Jan. 28, 1.33 a. m.—An official communication made public today says:

"It has been learned that the Turkish cruiser Sultan Selim (formerly the German cruiser Goeben) sustained severe damage in an engagement January 3. Her casualties included thirty-three men killed and eighty wounded."

Greek Islands as Submarine Bases.

London, Jan. 27.—The reports that Greek islands have been utilized in connection with the operation of German submarines were corroborated in the house of commons today by Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs.

"We have reason to think that the enemy on several occasions endeavored to utilize Greek islands as bases for hostile operations," he said, "but it is hoped the measures taken by the Hellenic government in conjunction with the British and French naval and military authorities, will effectually stop this practice."

Oppressed Peoples Must be Liberated.

Paris, Jan. 27.—King Nicholas of Montenegro, who is now at Lyons, sent to President Poincaré today a telegram giving assurances of his devotion to the Entente Allies. The president replied with a telegram in which he said the Allies would "continue the war until the oppressed peoples are liberated from the German yoke."

The Montenegro royal family has decided to accept as a residence a building on the banks of the Saone river which was built for Mme. de Pompadour. The building was placed at their disposal by the city of Lyons. King Nicholas has decided to wear civilian clothes instead of his military uniform in order that he may promenade about the city without attracting undue attention.

Work on New Railway Held Up.

London, Jan. 27.—From well-informed sources it is learned that all work on the central section of the new Petrozavodsk-Ekaterina railway in Russia has been shut down, and that work will not be resumed until late in May. The new railway is one projected to reach the coast of England at a point 225 miles west of the White Sea, and is designed to relieve the single track line to Archangel, which until three weeks ago was the sole western support of Russia open to the importation of merchandise and munitions of war.

The central section of the Ekaterina railway extends north and south from Kem, the northern port being Kandelax.

Work of a desultory character is being carried on, it is learned, on the extreme northern end of the Ekaterina railway, but owing to the loss of a large shipment of rails through a ship disaster off the Newzealand coast the work of laying rails is shut down pending the arrival of new shipments.

The delay in the work on the central section of the railway is due to the severity of the weather, and inability to get through equipment over the rough country at this season. In the most favorable circumstances, it will not be finished before next autumn, and the most sanguine calculations place the forwarding of goods into the interior of Russia at about ten months hence, and that these goods now lie in that port without any chance of going forward until the new railway is completed, or until transshipment can be made to Archangel. The White Sea and Archangel will not be open to traffic until some time in May. To send vessels in ballast to Ekaterina to load for Archangel, it is declared, will involve heavy expense. The freight rate on shipments to Archangel from American ports just prior

WILSON SEES NEW LIGHT ON DANGER OF WAR FOR U. S.

President Calls for Immediate Adoption of Preparedness Programme

AMERICAN NOTE TO BRITAIN PEREMPTORY

Prompt Action is Demanded, and Unwarranted Interference is Compelled of—Senators Denounce Exportation of Arms, and Vote on Embargo Resolution May Be Forced

Washington, Jan. 27.—"Vexatiously inquisitorial," "unwarranted interference," and "injury upon injury," are among the terms employed in the protest of the American government to Great Britain against Great Britain's interference with neutral mails, the text of which has been made public here tonight.

The note points out that "a strong feeling is being aroused" in this country by the loss of valuable letters, while foreign banks are refusing to cash American checks because they have no assurances that drafts are secure in the mails.

The tentative reply of Great Britain to the protest is a communication that is going on between Great Britain and her Allies with respect to the policy to be pursued.

Denunciation of the exportation of arms and ammunition to the belligerents in the world was also being voiced in the United States senate by a dozen senators—Democrats and Republicans. The debate which followed upon the presentation to the senate of a long resolution of the prohibition of American munitions for strict neutrality calling for the enactment of embargo legislation, seemed to promise that a vote may be forced before the senate session now pending before the foreign relations committee.

"Prepare for War," Wilson's Slogan.

New York, Jan. 27.—President Wilson tonight opened his appeal to the country for national defense. He gave warning that plans for the embargo resolution must be formulated and carried out without delay, and solemnly declared he could not predict that the outlook for the United States would be as bright as it is today. Speaking at banquets of the Railway Business Association and the Motion Picture Board of Trade, he sounded the keynote of addresses he will deliver during the next ten days in the middle west.

Mr. Wilson was in a fighting mood throughout his addresses. In a speech delivered early in the day he declared he always accepted an invitation to fight. Tonight he told the railroad men he was an advocate of peace, and had struggled to keep the United States at peace, but that he considered the liberty and honor of the nation even more important than peace.

"We to any man who plays marplot, or who seeks to make party politics or personal ambition take precedence over candor, honor and usefulness, impartial service," said the president, in speaking of his defense plan before the railroad men.

The president, at both banquets, and all during his day's visit to New York, was greeted with enthusiasm. During his speech before nearly 1,200 businessmen at the railway banquet, he was frequently interrupted by applause.

Has Reason for Change of Views.

The president admitted that in a message to the last congress he had said the need for preparedness was not pressing. He declared that he had learned something in the meantime.

Mr. Wilson spoke of men of high character who were clashing the preparedness issue. He declared they were provincial, and that the United States could no longer cut itself from the rest of the world.

"If we are drawn into the madstrom which now surges in Europe," the president declared, "we shall not be permitted to do the high things we would prefer."

The president defended the continental army plan, drawn up by Secretary of War Garrison, and said that he did not care about the details of any plan, as long as 500,000 trained men were available to resist the federal government. He added that the United States will not turn in the direction of militarism.

Outlining why the United States should prepare, Mr. Wilson said we must protect our rights as a nation, and the rights of our citizens in America and outside of it, as the consequence of civilized peoples had defined them; must ensure the unembarrassed rearing of our political development within our own borders, and must protect the peace and political autonomy of the Americans.

Why does mother prevent my enlisting? Is she selfish? If so, I will always feel the shame.

BREWSTER OF COLORADO, NEW BISHOP OF MAINE.

Portland, Me., Jan. 27.—Right Rev. Benjamin Brewster, missionary bishop of western Colorado, was yesterday chosen Episcopal bishop of Maine to succeed the late Bishop Robert Codman.

He received nineteen clerical and sixty-two lay votes and Rev. Dr. John H. Hopkins of the Church of the Redeemer, Chicago, had ten clerical and fifteen lay votes. The latter's name was presented by Very Rev. Dr. Frank L. Vernon of this city, and on his motion the election of Bishop Brewster was made unanimous.

\$200,000 FIRE LOSS IN BURNING OF HOTEL.

York Harbor, Me., Jan. 27.—The Marshall House, the pioneer summer hotel here, was destroyed by fire early last evening, entailing a loss of \$200,000.