

ALLIES TAKE OVER MILLION TONNAGE

LONDON ELECTRIC READY TO CONTINUE PLANT'S OPERATION ON \$12,000 MONTHLY GUARANTEE

Submits Proposal to City, Which Will Consider It Tomorrow, Making Alternative Offer of Purchase by City Through Arbitration.

The London Electric Company has made a definite offer to the city, either for operation by the company or purchase by the city of the company's plant which, it was announced by the company, would suspend operations at the end of the month. The 1,800 patrons of the company have been anxiously waiting the outcome. It will not consider any proposition to rent the plant to the municipality. R. J. Fleming, general manager of the Toronto Electric Light Company, of which the London Electric is a subsidiary, sent the offer this morning to Mayor J. R. Somerville, who has called a meeting for Friday morning to discuss it.

The first offer deals with the operation of the plant by the company. It states that the company will operate the London Electric for six months or less for a guaranteed gross income of \$12,000 a month. Mr. Fleming estimates that the average consumption is 200,000 kilowatts a month, or an average of 6 cents per kilowatt hour. This is practically double the amount paid by the city.

So far as renting the plant to the city, Mr. Fleming states that the company does not care to rent the plant to the city. The London Electric would sell after the expiration of six months, or any period between now and then on the basis of arbitration. The city under this arrangement will name one arbitrator, the company another, and these two will select a third.

"We will call a meeting on Friday morning to deal with the offer," said Mayor C. R. Hume, "but I am personally concerned, only one proposition is to be considered seriously, and that is the one which will go into it carefully, and see whether or not we will pay that amount of money."

DOMINION MUST PLAN FOR FUEL SUPPLIES FOR NEXT TEN YEARS

Engineering Expert Declares Coal Situation Is Serious.

Toronto, March 14.—"Canada must plan for a fuel supply, not merely for next year, but for a decade to come," said Prof. Peter Gillespie, chairman of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, at a meeting today. The purpose of the conference which has been called to meet here on March 14, is to discuss the fuel situation in Canada.

Prof. Gillespie declares that the situation is serious. "It is not only a question of fuel for the next year," he said, "but a question of fuel for the next ten years. We must plan for a fuel supply, not merely for next year, but for a decade to come."

Prof. Gillespie points out that the coal situation is serious. "It is not only a question of fuel for the next year," he said, "but a question of fuel for the next ten years. We must plan for a fuel supply, not merely for next year, but for a decade to come."

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GREAT BRITAIN AND U. S. SEIZE DUTCH VESSELS

LONDON, March 14.—Because of the long delay in the negotiations with Holland over Dutch ships in the Allied ports, and the slow pace of the Dutch Government to act in this respect, Great Britain and the United States have each an agreement to end the negotiations and take over all such ships next week for the use of the Allies.

The amount of tonnage made available to the Allies through this Dutch arrangement is one million tons, of which 70 per cent is in the United States, 15 per cent in Great Britain, and 15 per cent in other Allied ports.

THIS SAYS LAST CHANCE. Washington, D. C., March 14.—The United States and Great Britain have presented a final notice to Holland that unless the pending agreement for Allied use of Dutch ships is accepted by March 18, the ships will be taken over for Allied use.

TRADE FIGURES KEEP ADVANCING

Total For Year Shows an Increase Over Former Period.

Ottawa, March 14.—A total Canadian trade of \$2,373,724,883 for the eleven months of the current fiscal year ending with February is shown in the monthly trade statement for February issued today by the department of customs.

This is a considerable increase over the similar period last year, when Canada's total trade aggregated \$2,018,447,397. For the month of February alone, Canada's trade amounted to \$143,231,697 as compared with \$140,162,700 for February, 1917.

Exports of 40 domestic goods for the eleven months period, inclusive of coin and bullion, were to the value of \$1,440,459,944, as against \$1,282,046,435 for the corresponding eleven months of the previous fiscal year. Goods exported for consumption were valued at \$886,942,750, on the amount of \$145,789,221 were duties collected.

CANADIANS AT LENS BRING DOWN FLIERS

Allies Continue To Retain Superiority in Aerial Warfare.

[By W. A. Willison, Canadian Press War Correspondent.]

Canada's Army Headquarters, March 14.—Not since the battle of the Somme have the Allies on the western front enjoyed such unquestioned superiority in the air as now. Not only in the air fighting and in other activities, by day, but in bombing operations at night, our pilots and observers are more than a match for the enemy.

The outstanding feature in the forward areas during the past three days has been the amount of aerial activity, while our anti-aircraft and machine gunners or those of the enemy are constantly busy. There was a hilarious celebration on our front line yesterday when the men of an infantry regiment engaged a low flying Boche airplane with their machine guns and brought it crashing down in Lens.

Last night another enemy machine came down behind our lines on a trial trip with a crew of two officers, non-commissioned officers and mechanics, who were made prisoners.

MAXIMALISTS WAGING GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TEUTONS

Amsterdam, Wednesday, March 13.—There has been an intensification of the fighting in the Ukraine, where the forces of the Maximalists are receiving reinforcements from Rumania and Czech and Austrian detachments according to a Berlin dispatch to the Rhenische Westfalische Zeitung.

The Germans, the dispatch adds, have frequently engaged in furious battles with bodies of such men and when they fall into German hands they are shot.

RUMANIANS AGREED TO TAKING OF ODESSA

Berlin, March 14.—Via London.—The German troops which occupied Odessa were sent in agreement with the Rumanian Government, today's army headquarters' statement announces.

MEAT EXPORTS FROM U. S. TO ALLIES TO DOUBLE

Washington, March 14.—Meat exports to the Allies will be increased 50 per cent, and perhaps doubled shortly, according to a statement made today by the food administration with the Allied food representatives here.

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Telephone From Train Traveling 60 Miles an Hour

Experiments are being conducted on the Canadian Government railways with a telephone apparatus that permits verbal messages to be transmitted to and from moving trains, and have met with highly gratifying results.

Connection between the instrument and railway is made through the car wheels. It will be possible for connection to be made between the train instruments and that of any regular telephone subscriber. Train speed is no consequence, as satisfactory results have been attained with the train traveling at the speed of 60 miles an hour.

THE NORTHERN CROWN BANK IS PURCHASED BY THE ROYAL BANK

Montreal, March 14.—Arrangements have been completed for the purchase of the Northern Crown Bank by the Royal Bank of Canada.

The purchase price will be approximately \$200 per share, and will be paid in Royal Bank stock and cash. The bank is being sold to the Royal Bank of Canada, which is being sold to the Royal Bank of Canada.

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MAY ASK EMPLOYERS TO SPECIFY STATUS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES

New Questionnaire Form Under M. S. A. Formulated.

Although Deputy Registrar W. E. Wismer has received no information from the department of the questionnaire, it is understood that in the near future all employers of labor will be asked to furnish a copy of the questionnaire to the department.

THE RECOUNT NOW IN PROGRESS AT COURT HOUSE.

The recount of the urban ballots cast in West Middlesex in the 1917 federal election is in progress at the court house today before Judge Tabor Macbeth.

The recount is one of the best handled in the history of the province, and the recount is being conducted in a most efficient manner.

SEIGNY RESIGNS FROM BORDEN GOVT.

Nothing Yet in Sight for Twice Defeated Minister.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, March 14.—The resignation of Hon. Albert Seigny from the government has been finally accepted by Sir Robert Borden. The announcement was given out this morning.

There will be no successor appointed as the inland revenue portfolio is to be transferred to the customs portfolio, under Hon. Arthur Meighen. Mr. Seigny has as far as been learned there is no government appointment in sight for him.

RUSS DOWAGER EMPRESS ASKS FOR ASSISTANCE

LONDON, March 14.—The former Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna has applied to the Council of Commissioners for assistance, a Russian dispatch from Petrograd reports. She declares she is destitute in consequence of the confiscation of the funds of the imperial family.

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SOLDIER FROM LONDON TO GET MEDAL U. S.

Former Member of Old 6th and 12th Batteries Will Have Unique Distinction.

WON D. C. M. IN FRANCE

Presentation, However, Will Be Made in Madison Square, New York, Sunday Night.

Another London soldier—a member of the old 6th Battery, which left London under the late Lieut.-Col. Woodman Leonard—is to be signally honored.

Press dispatches from New York today make the announcement that the unusual distinction of having a war decoration bestowed on him in a foreign country will be accorded to Sergt. Alfred W. James, Canadian Artillery, of the military and naval medal at Madison Square Garden on Sunday night.

Sergt. James enlisted in this city and served with the 12th Battery, C. F. A., formed from the old 6th, in France. The New York announcement says that when Brig.-Gen. L. R. Kenyon of the British war mission pins the distinguished conduct medal on James' tunic on Sunday night it will be the first time that a modern British soldier has been so decorated on American soil.

The decoration—the D. C. M.—was won three years ago for Sergt. James' gallant conduct in the Ypres area. He was wounded on April 28, 1915, at Willem and was invalided back to Canada in December of that year, landing in Quebec in December.

The official war office record of the award said:

Sergt. A. W. James, 3rd Brigade, artillery, for conspicuous gallantry and ability at Ypres, when he repaired and telegraph wires under shell and rifle fire. He continued to go after being wounded and showed a fine example of devotion and duty.

At the time of his landing in Quebec, and subsequently in a special article which Sergt. James wrote for The London Advertiser, the decorated soldier, who also won the Russian Medal of Order of St. George, paid the highest tribute to the late Lieut.-Col. Leonard, "I would not have been where I am today without the help of the late Lieut.-Col. Leonard."

Just one word more. One occasion the major was retiring from the observation post, tired and weary, and saw him stop and make a lightning round at great personal danger.

Sergt. James wound and the winning of his decoration followed on the basis of his heroism on the 12th Battery, for he wrote:

Our first baptism of real heavy fighting was at Ypres. I venture to state that on April 22 the 12th Battery was holding the most forward position in the Ypres salient. On the evening of that day, about 7 o'clock, the enemy commenced to bombard from all sides of the salient, and launched the powerful gas flames. It was simply

madness, and no one seemed to know just what was really happening. The attack was so heavy and accurate that the gas flames were seen in the field of No. 3.

The major never turned a hair. He just stood there and waited for the attack. He was not a man to be frightened. He was a man to be respected.

I certainly believe that the switching of the gas saved them that night. It was a very clever move. It was a very clever move.

On April 24 the Germans opened a terrific fire on our battery. The shrapnel commenced to burst 100 yards directly in front of the battery.

As soon as the shrapnel was ordered to burst on our front he ordered all men to take cover at once, and thank God he had made the right order. The shrapnel burst directly over the battery.

They fired about 50 rounds at that range, and had the right order. The shrapnel burst directly over the battery.

Major Stated With Guns.

Though Major Leonard ordered his men to take cover, he would take none himself, nor leave the guns. He stayed with the night through the fire.

As soon as the Germans ceased firing, believing they had silenced our battery, for good, we dragged our guns to a safe position without the loss of a life.

Although James' home is in Smith's Falls, he was working in London when war was declared, and was one of the first to sign up with the 12th Battery, an overseas service, and went with the battery when it left London August 28, 1914. The sergeant has been on the staff of the British-Canadian recruiting mission for some time, and is now on duty at New York. This is the reason why the belated award is being made on American soil.

COLLINGWOOD'S BILL PASSES THE COMMITTEE

Toronto, March 14.—In the private bills committee of the Legislature today the town of Collingwood's bill was passed with the change suggested by the Ontario Railway Board that the debentures be for 20 years instead of 30 years.

TUNED TO THE HIGHEST PITCH MIGHTY ARMIES AWAIT SIGNAL TO CRASH ON WESTERN FRONT

FIRST CANADIAN TO GET DECORATION IN AMERICAN TERRITORY

Marvelous Work by British Airmen and Thunderous Duels Preface the Coming Stupendous Conflict Between Allies and Teutons.

LONDON, March 14.—British raiders brought back prisoners from the German position near Epehy, southwest of Cambrai last night. The official statement from this was one of today also reports the capture of a German raid in the Ypres sector.

BEIGIANS ROUT BOCHES.

Paris, March 14.—French aviators of Wednesday accounted for thirteen machines, according to a statement from the war office tonight, which also reports a successful Belgian forward movement near Lombray.

"Belgian" continued. Shortly after daybreak, after a violent bombardment our troops entered the enemy trenches southeast of Lombray. After killing the occupants of the trenches in the first line and moving forward, they checked a violent counter-attack in hand-to-hand fighting. The enemy then retired to his second line. The artillery was active along the whole front Tuesday, most violently in the Nieuport and Dixmude sectors.

British Front in France and Belgium. Tuesday, March 12.—This has been another day of intense fighting, but there has been no change in the situation. The British and German military machines, tuned up to the finest pitch and probably as nearly perfect as it is possible to make them, are still awaiting the signal which will send them crashing against each other.

Thunderous Duels. Meanwhile the artillery pounds away in thunderous duels at various points and myriad airmen are busy bombing, photographing and acting as eyes for the respective armies.

The British airmen have been doing marvelous work recently. The first ten days of March, as a whole, have been another day of intense fighting, but there has been no change in the situation. The British and German military machines, tuned up to the finest pitch and probably as nearly perfect as it is possible to make them, are still awaiting the signal which will send them crashing against each other.

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