

REJECT OFFER FOR IMMEDIATE HOME RULE

Weather Forecast:
Fair and Cool

63rd YEAR, No. 22773

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

THE LONDON, ONTARIO, ADVERTISER, THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 17, 1917. 96 COLUMNS.

HOME
EDITION

PRICE TWO CENTS

GERMANS GIVEN TO EDGE OF BULLECOURT RUSSIAN CABINET CRISIS SETTLED

ALL IS CLEARED RUSS CRISIS; CABINET STANDS

Workmen and Soldiers Accept Government's Declaration and Socialist Groups Will Be Represented in Cabinet.

Petrograd, May 17.—Via London.—The cabinet crisis has been settled. A declaration of the Government's policy has been accepted by representatives of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates, with merely slight alterations, and was signed by them at midnight.

During the sitting M. Tchernoff, National Socialist, was appointed minister of agriculture, and M. Skobelev, vice-president of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates, was appointed minister of labor. It was also decided to be desirable to include in the Government Feodor Kowshinski, Constitutional Democrat and a professor at the University of Moscow, and M. Tsereteli, member of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates. The duty of these men will be to prepare for the constituent assembly.

A BETTER SITUATION.

Petrograd, Wednesday, May 16.—Via London, May 17.—After an all-day discussion between the cabinet and representatives of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, the Ministerial crisis was still undisturbed at a late hour tonight, and no definite Ministerial appointment has been made. Nevertheless, as the result of two important events today, the prospects of a coalition ministry being formed were materially improved.

Large Commissions.

First, the Constitutional Dem. party, which practically controls the Government, has consented to the inclusion of public instruction, and A. I. Shingor, minister of agriculture, remaining in office. This, in the opinion of the Government, is a most important concession. The second new factor is that the temporary Government has made large concessions to the council of deputies on questions of general policy, which hitherto have been the most serious obstacle to a settlement.

Threat Resign.

The Government today drafted a declaration describing these concessions, and it is understood that this declaration has been handed to the council with a threat that in the event of non-acceptance the entire cabinet will resign. The most important points covered are in connection with the Russian policy, and the Government's aim is the attainment of a general peace, and the conquest of other nations, depriving them of their territory. In a word, peace with annexations or contributions.

Will Stand By Allies.

The declaration further meets the council's demands by promising to take steps toward the attainment of an agreement with the Allies, which will result in the Government's declaration of April 2. The Government also promises to strengthen the Russian military forces. The declaration meets half of the council's demands, and the other half is promised further by the Government's promise to take steps toward the attainment of an agreement with the Allies, which will result in the Government's declaration of April 2.

Government Consents.

The Government consents to the council's demand for the democratization of the army, but desires to combine it with a strengthening of the Russian military forces. The declaration meets half of the council's demands, and the other half is promised further by the Government's promise to take steps toward the attainment of an agreement with the Allies, which will result in the Government's declaration of April 2.

Canada in Peril of Aliens, Says Veteran

Wants Germans and Austrians of All Rights Disfranchised.
Calgary, May 17.—Premier Sifton declared at the opening meeting of the provincial election campaign here last night that all subjects of alien birth, who were naturalized before August 4, 1914, and who had in no way committed any offense against the laws of Canada since, were a danger to the province. He said that the right to vote in the Alberta election should be given to those who have returned from the front.

Major Guilfoyle, one of the returned soldiers, was given ten minutes to address the meeting and he at once asked the Premier to take no action toward the disfranchisement of the returned soldiers.

His statement was met with a great deal of applause among the veterans. He said that the returned soldiers were a danger to the province, and that they should be given the right to vote. He said that the returned soldiers were a danger to the province, and that they should be given the right to vote.

RAJAH OF SARAWAK DEAD.

London, May 17.—The Rajah of Sarawak, Sir Charles Brooke, died today at Cirencester. He was 88 years old.

MAUDE MASTERS TIGRIS TERRORS; ORDER IS KING

The British Have Evolved a Wonderfully Efficient Supply Service.

HAVE OVERCOME DESERT

Days of Muddle in the Mesopotamian Campaign Are No More.

British Army Headquarters in Mesopotamia, April 16.—(British Eyewitness.)—Nothing more efficient than the lines of communications and supplies serving the British forces in Mesopotamia can well be imagined. The days have been evolved out of chaos. All that human agency can do has been and is being done to turn past failures into success and prevent future breakdowns in organization.

Sanitation has been taken in hand. An anti-plague campaign is being carried on, though any appreciable diminution of the fly plague, and after long time, the construction of public works, houses, stores, etc., light plants, cold storage, wharves, docks, and roads, railways, goes on apace, and on so large a scale and of such solidity that it is not surprising if the inhabitants of the country expect these activities as denoting a determination on the part of the British visitor to remain permanently in Mesopotamia.

Troops Well Fed.
The feeding of the troops from the firing line to the base is excellent and abundant. Purely edible necessities and luxuries, from Basra to Sheikh Said, one may travel by motor car, and on so large a scale and of such solidity that it is not surprising if the inhabitants of the country expect these activities as denoting a determination on the part of the British visitor to remain permanently in Mesopotamia.

Along the Austro-Italian front, Gen. Cadorna was hurrying his troops forward in Italy's most formidable offensive against the Austrians. In Macedonia, Gen. Serrail, with cosmopolitan forces of French, British, Russian, Italian, Serbian and Greek troops was fighting along a front of nearly 30 miles.

In Mesopotamia, Gen. Maude's British expeditionary force was pressing on north of Baghdad. In Palestine, Gen. Murray, with his British invaders, was slowly but steadily pressing the Turks back and sweeping on toward Jaffa and the Holy City of Jerusalem.

The first front offensive plan is a general advance of the British and other nations, depriving them of their territory. In a word, peace with annexations or contributions.

Imperial War Talk

AN ANNUAL AFFAIR

London, May 17, 4:35 p.m.—Meeting of the Imperial War Council. The Premier, Lord George, announced today in the House of Commons. At the conclusion of the war a special conference will be held to re-adjust the constitutional relations of the Empire. The annual Imperial war council will be composed of the premier of each of the Dominions, and the representatives of each of the Dominions, and the representatives of each of the Dominions, and the representatives of each of the Dominions.

GOOD WHEAT WEATHER

IN BRANDON DISTRICT

Brandon, Man., May 17.—Crop experts declare wheat has been a more favorable May in the history of wheat growing in this district than the present month. The intense heat (93 degrees) of yesterday afternoon, and the high wind did not do any damage.

MILL HAS NO WHEAT.

HAS TO CLOSE DOWN

A flour mill at Goderich has been idle for several weeks because of inability to secure wheat. The holding back of grain is not only putting up prices, but making more difficult the securing of a supply.

Y. M. C. A. FUND TO REACH

AT LEAST \$20,000

The Y.M.C.A. campaign will be closed this evening. The teams are working and meeting with considerable success. Two thousand dollars have been raised, and it is considered very fair. There is no doubt but that the amount asked for, \$20,000, will be obtained.

CANON ROBERTS DEAD

Was Preceptor of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston.

Kingston, May 17.—Following a long illness, the death occurred of Canon William Roberts, aged 71, preceptor of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, and rector of Christ Church, Cataraugus, who was ordained in 1868 and held many charges in Eastern Ontario. Canon Roberts was born at Elmsford, Shropshire, England. He was a doctor of music and in 1888 came to Canada as organist for Hon. John Hamilton, brother of Archbishop Hamilton.

JOSEPH CHOATE'S LAST PUBLIC APPEARANCE



The Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, British war envoy and former premier of Great Britain, on his way to the New York City Hall, accompanied by Joseph H. Choate, former United States ambassador to England. A fee to neutrality since the war began, the aged Mr. Choate displayed wonderful energy, urging the United States to take up arms. This reached a climax with the Joffre and Balfour visits, and meant the old patriot's death.

Advertiser Illustration

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ACCEPTS CONVENTION OFFER.

Mr. Redmond, in a letter to Premier Lloyd George, accepts on behalf of the Irish party the proposal for "assembling a convention of Irishmen of all parties for the purpose of producing a scheme of Irish self-government," on condition that the "basis on which the convention is to be called is such as to insure that it is fully and fairly representative of Irishmen of all creeds, interests and parties, and, secondly, that the convention be summoned without delay."

HOSTILE TO FIRST OFFER.

Mr. Redmond said Premier Lloyd George's proposal for an Irish Government would, in the opinion of the Irish party, find no support in Ireland. They, therefore, were irreconcilably opposed to it, and any measure based on that proposal would meet with their vigorous opposition. But, Mr. Redmond, Irishmen, has much to recommend it, and the assembling of a convention of Irishmen, he said, would be a most desirable step.

PROPOSALS CONSIDERED.

London, May 17.—2:25 p.m.—The Nationalist members of Parliament and the Ulster members both met today to consider the Government's proposals for a settlement of the Irish question. After the Ulster meeting, it was stated that the situation was so full of difficulties that a definite decision was yet possible. A statement, however, would be issued later in the day, it was announced.

With Mixed Feelings.

The proposals have been received with mixed feelings in Ireland, according to dispatches from Dublin. The Freeman's Journal says: "The plan for a permanent partition for dismemberment of the Nationalist majority and of Nationalist Ulster is a proposal which is not only repugnant to the feelings of the people, but which the Government proposals amount to what we may anticipate, be promptly rejected. What view Mr. Redmond has taken of the proposals is not yet known. The proposal of an Irish constitutional convention remains to be seen."

CARRANZA GIVES HINT

OF ENTERING THE WAR

Not Sure That Mexico Will Be Able to Remain Neutral.

Mexico City, May 17.—Great interest has been aroused here by President Carranza's remarks at a banquet yesterday in honor of Gen. Alvaro Obregon, recently resigned as minister of war. President Carranza declared that they were not saying good-bye to Gen. Obregon, because no one had the right at the present time to retire to private life. He said that Carranza was not yet ready to make a decision regarding the future of the republic. He said that Carranza was not yet ready to make a decision regarding the future of the republic.

WAR VETERAN KILLED

BY ACCIDENTAL SHOT

Montreal, May 17.—Lieut. Hal Breen, Ottawa, died yesterday in the General Hospital from a revolver shot wound in the abdomen. The young officer, who recently returned from the front after being wounded twice, told his doctors at the hospital that while cleaning his revolver a bullet accidentally discharged.

DR. JAEGER DEAD.

Death is announced at Stratford.

Amsterdam, May 17.—Dr. Gustave Jaeger, well known as a clothing specialist. He was 84 years old.

HAIG BATTERS WAY TO EDGE OF BULLECOURT; FRENCH REPEL DRIVES

GERMANS FORCED TO EXHAUST ALL FRESH RESERVES

Forty-Four Divisions Used Up in Battle of Arras.

STATEMENT BY MAURICE

British and French Offensive Has Compelled Heavy Sacrifice by the Enemy.

London, May 17.—2:45 p.m.—The British and French have forced the Germans to use virtually all the fresh reserves which they had at the beginning of the battle of Arras. Major-Gen. F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, said today. When the British offensive began the Germans had 40 reserve divisions on the western front. The British and French offensive have compelled the Germans to employ all but four of these reserves.

The German divisions have been reorganized since the beginning of the war. They are now organized into three main groups. The first group consists of the divisions which were used in the battle of Arras. The second group consists of the divisions which were used in the battle of the Somme. The third group consists of the divisions which were used in the battle of Verdun.

This was not done in the early part of the war, and the reasons for the present decision are due to obvious causes. The German offensive, which was launched in the early part of the war, was a failure. The German offensive, which was launched in the early part of the war, was a failure.

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British Reach West Part of Village After Inflicting Sanguinary Losses on Enemy.

London, May 17.—12:50 p.m.—The British have made further progress in the village of Bullecourt and have reached the western edge of the hamlet, according to an official statement issued by the British war office this morning.

SIX ASSAULTS REPULSED.

Paris, May 17.—Six assaults by the Germans on the French lines have been repulsed with heavy losses, according to an official statement issued by the French war office today. Three attacks were made north of Moulin-de-Laffaux and three northeast of Bray-en-Launois.

BRITISH COUNTER WON.

Berlin, May 17.—Via London.—The ground which was captured by the Germans in the village of Roex yesterday morning was later lost following a strong British counter-attack, says the German statement.

MORE PRISONERS TAKEN.

Paris, May 17.—The French war office statement follows: "The night was marked by new enemy attacks in the region north of Moulin-de-Laffaux. All of the German efforts to recapture the ground gained by us were repulsed. The fighting, which was very severe at certain points, resulted from our advantage everywhere, and cost the enemy heavy losses. More prisoners were taken."

"Northwest of Bray-en-Launois three German detachments made attacks. The enemy made several attempts to approach our lines in the sector between La Roche farm and Epine-de-Chevigny. He suffered serious losses from our barrage and obtained no result."

"In the Champagne there was patrol fighting in the region of Mont Camillet. We took prisoners. There is nothing to report from the other sectors."

Continued on Page Two.

U. S. OFFICER DEAD AND 16 ILL; POISON IN THE FOOD

Pittsburg, Pa., May 17.—One Pennsylvania National Guardsman is dead and sixteen others are ill, eight being in Pittsburg hospitals as a result, it is believed, of eating poisoned food at a restaurant near the militia camp. The proprietor of the restaurant is being held for investigation, and a guard has been placed about his restaurant.

Lieut. William F. Corcoran of Philadelphia, is dead.

TEUTONIC PRESS COMMENDS ADDRESS OF CHANCELLOR; SAY IT UNITES ALL PARTIES

Berlin, May 16.—Via London, May 17.—Press comment today on the chancellor's speech almost unanimously underscores the reference to Russia as the significantly outstanding feature of the premier's utterance. The speech as a whole is generally commended as one of the boldest and best that von Bethmann has made in Parliament and particularly the general superiority of the editorial discussion, dilating upon all angles of war aims and peace terms, emphasizes the widely divergent views entertained on all sides. In many quarters the speech has had a pronounced effect, and is interpreted as pointing the way to a common meeting ground. The impression prevails that the convalescing chancellor, who is badly shaken, although the chancellor was equally emphatic in disowning any intention of a general peace conference, and in emphasizing the necessity of a program of territorial and indemnity negotiation. Standing guard between these two misgivings, the chief of the middle parties helped the chancellor to carry the day.

RECORD CATTLE SALE.

Lafayette, May 17.—A sale of Hereford cattle, at Western View, a ranch near Lake Farm, Kentland, Ind., today realized a record for high prices. Seventy-five bulls and cows sold for \$171,257. Marlin Fairfax, 443,000, was bought by McCord Fuller, Craig, Saskatchewan, Canada, for \$17,000, said to be a record price.

SOCIALISTS OF REICHSTAG VOTED AGAINST BUDGETS

Amsterdam, via London, May 17.—The Reichstag has adjourned until July 5. The Social Democratic deputies voted against the military and other budgets, both factions of the party uniting in their opposition.

AN UNLUCKY SHIP

Smashed Welland Lock and is Now Hard Aground.
Kingston, May 17.—Steamer Natirong, which cleared last yesterday for Montreal, is ashore at Charity Shoal, near Pigeon Island. This is the steamer that smashed one of the locks of Welland Canal two weeks ago and tied up traffic.

CERNIN TO SEE HOLLIG.

Amsterdam, via London, May 17.—A semi-official announcement from Vienna says that Count Cernin, Austrian foreign minister, has left for German headquarters to continue his conference with Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg. He will take up matters which were discussed during the chancellor's recent visit to Vienna.

FATHER SEQUET DEAD.

Danvers, Conn., May 17.—Rev. Francis Cevie Sequet, M.S., at one time provincial missionary of the Order of La Salette in this country, and assistant to the general superior of the Order in France, died at St. James Rest Home last night. He was born in Sarze, France, in 1867. For the past six years he had been doing missionary work in Saskatchewan, Canada.

COL. RENNIE IN FRANCE.

Hamilton, May 17.—Word was received today that Col. George S. Rennie, of this city, has received an appointment to the rank of major in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and is now in France. The report that he was returning to Canada is incorrect.

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