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WITHOUT doubt we have the best value in Boys' Military Suits in Canada. We are keeping the prices low in order that all the boys may have one.

The illustration shows the two styles, officers and infantry. The material is a splendid wearing wool mix khaki, and the suits are splendidly made. The price for each style, complete with cap and puttees, as follows:

Officers, 3 to 10 years, \$7.35
11 to 15 years, \$8.35

Infantry suits, complete with cap and puttees:
Ages 3 to 10 years, \$5.85
11 to 15 years, \$7.35

Caps separate, 85c each
Swagger sticks, 25c and 50c each

Out-of-town customers please note:

When orders amount to \$10.00 and over we prepay charges—either by post or express to any part of Ontario. Please send 25c to cover postage for any order under that amount.

Oak Hall, Clothiers

Cor. Yonge and Adelaide Sts., Toronto
J. C. COOMBES, Manager.

Official War Statements

British

The British official statement on the campaign in France and Belgium, issued last night, follows:

"Last night troops carried out a small raid southward of Verlorenhoek with satisfactory results. Today there has been artillery activity by both sides about Halluch, Ploegsteert and Ypres. There was also considerable aerial activity; many combats took place. A determined attack on one of our reconnaissance balloons was forced to descend when attacked with bombs."

French

The communication issued by the French war office last night follows:

"In Belgium effective fire has been directed by both sides against the region of Helland and Langemarck. To the north of the Aisne we heard the outbreak of the Ylle-aux-Bois. Champagne an attack launched by us on the German positions south of St. Souplet enabled us to occupy an enemy trench and take some prisoners. West of the Meuse the bombardment perceptibly slackened during the course of the day on the Bethincourt-Cumers front, where no infantry action was reported."

"On the right bank there has been considerable activity in the region of Vaux and Damoupy. Skirmishes in the latter have been fought by our advanced groups on the slopes east of Fort Vaux."

"In the Woëvre the villages at the foot of the Meuse hills have been bombarded with hand grenades under the cover of the whole front, especially east of the Bois de Wavrille, where an artillery company was engaged. In the neighborhood of Month and Hannoncelles, north of Fresnes-en-Woëvre, where our fire caused a powerful explosion in a German battery."

"The Belgian communication reads: 'Except for a reciprocal bombardment in the region north of Pervyse there is nothing to report.' Yesterday afternoon's French official communique said:

"To the west of the River Meuse, the enemy made no further endeavor to advance last night. 'Along our front, between Bethincourt and Cumers, counter-attacks with the bayonet and with hand grenades made it possible for us to reconquer a portion of the trenches captured yesterday by the enemy in the direction of Hill No. 265. We now hold Bethincourt, the height of Mort Homme, the southern boundary of the wood of Cumers, and the Village of Cumers."

"Southward of the Pripet River and in Galicia, in the Stripsa River region, we had several successful encounters with enemy patrols. 'Caucasian front: While continuing our pursuit of the Turks we have captured 21 additional officers and 236 Askaris, as well as two mountain guns."

"The night passed quietly on the remainder of the front."

German

"The German official report of yesterday reads: 'Western front: Near Neuve Chapelle we blew up an advanced British defence position, with the occupants. British artillery directed a heavy fire on Lens. 'French artillery is very active opposite our new positions near Ville aux Bois and opposite various sectors of the Champagne. 'On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun front), Silesian troops, with a strong swinging onslaught, pushed forward their lines in the region west of the Champey wood, on the heights of Le Mort Homme. Twenty-five officers and more than 1000 unrounded men were captured. 'A counter-attack, four times repeat-

ed, gave the French no success whatsoever. They suffered very considerable losses. 'On the right bank of the Meuse, and on the eastern slopes of the hills, artillery on both sides kept up a bitter duel without interruption. 'In the Vosges, the French undertook numerous small attacks with reconnoitering parties, but with no noteworthy results. 'North of Bapaume, Lieut. Leffers shot down his fourth enemy aeroplane, a British biplane. Both near Vimont, east of Arras, and in the neighborhood of St. Eloi, on the Aisne, the west of Verdun, a French aeroplane was brought down by our anti-aircraft guns. Over Haumont, north of Verdun, a large French battle-planes fell to earth after an aerial engagement. The occupants were made prisoners. The occupants of the other machines mentioned are dead. 'Eastern and Balkan fronts: The situation is unchanged."

Italian

"The following Italian official communication was issued yesterday: 'In the Alpine zone, our artillery activity extends from Tonale to the upper Friuli and from there we have commenced artillery duels, and infantry attacks yesterday. We progressed somewhat in the Rombon zone and on the height dominating Lucifcio. 'Southwest of San Martino, on the Carso, after an intense preparatory fire, the enemy attacked our positions with a view to our previous day, but was repulsed with serious loss. Nevertheless, the concentrated artillery fire of the enemy during the whole day impeded us to evacuate at night a little redoubt in order to avoid useless losses. 'On the Isonzo front there were lively artillery duels, and infantry attacks yesterday. We progressed somewhat in the Rombon zone and on the height dominating Lucifcio. 'Between the Lakes Medusa and Demmen we successfully shelled marching enemy columns. 'Southward of the Pripet River and in Galicia, in the Stripsa River region, we had several successful encounters with enemy patrols. 'Caucasian front: While continuing our pursuit of the Turks we have captured 21 additional officers and 236 Askaris, as well as two mountain guns."

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YOUNG AVIATOR SAILS



Pilot A. T. Whealy, who has just sailed for England to take out a commission in the Royal Naval Flying Corps, is a graduate of the Curtiss Aviation School, having commenced his aviation course at Toronto Island and finished at Newport News, Va. on the removal of the school to that city. Just 20 years of age, born and raised in Toronto, a second year student in medicine at Toronto University, Mr. Whealy is a splendid example of the best type of young Canadians who are, temporarily at least, sacrificing promising careers to answer the call of King and country. He is a son of J. S. A. Whealy of 100 Dunvegan road.

ITALIANS PROGRESSED IN FRESH OFFENSIVE

Advance Made in Rombon Zone and on Heights Dominating Lucifcio.

Special Cable to The Toronto World. LONDON, March 15.—The Italians progressed somewhat in the Rombon zone and on the heights dominating Lucifcio in their general offensive yesterday it was reported today in an official report from Rome. They also withstood violent counter-attacks from the Austrians, who endeavored to retake the positions which they had lost under a curtain of fire from their artillery during the day, and they repulsed the Austrians with serious loss. Owing to the strength of the hostile concentrated artillery fire during the day, the Austrians evacuated a small redoubt to avoid needless losses, but they kept it under a curtain of fire from their heavy guns. Thirty prisoners, rifles, machine guns and other material were taken by the Italians in their raids.

In the Alpine zone the activity of the Italian artillery extends from Tonale to the Upper Fella. The Italian infantry assisted the big guns by feigning attacks, which draw out the Austrians from their concealed positions and which give the gunners good targets.

HAMILTON NEWS

The Hamilton Office of The Toronto World is now located at 40 South McNab Street.

TO CHANGE RECRUITING SYSTEM NEXT WEEK

All Men Accepted at Depots Will Be Drafted Into One Battalion.

SLIGHT DROP YESTERDAY

Only Forty Applications for Overseas—Arrange Big Hydro Meeting.

HAMILTON, Thursday, March 15.—Hamilton hockey fans were treated to a real live contest last night, when the Winnipeg Monarchs and the Hamilton Bowling Club Seniors hooked up in an exhibition game. The final score was 6 to 4 in favor of the Monarchs. The game, on the whole, was the best played here this season, both teams displaying good checking and combination work. Neither team indulged in any rough work and only a few penalties were imposed. Members of the Rotary Club and the Retail Grocers' Association have pledged enthusiastic support to the Red Cross Conservation Movement. They will visit the various schools and instruct the pupils in collecting waste paper, rags and rubber, the manner of bundling it. Efforts will also be made to have all the manufacturers and business men support the movement.

Ald. T. M. Wright, chairman of the fire, police and jail committee, announced yesterday that the lengthy report which he and Chief Tom Eyck have been working on for weeks, outlining what has been done and what it is hoped to do respecting fire protection, is almost ready to be submitted to the board of control. What is advocated principally in their report is a card index system of regular inspection to be made daily by the firemen in manufacturing plants and business houses.

Big Hydro Meeting. Controller Morris announced yesterday that a public meeting in the interests of the hydro radial scheme, to be addressed by Sir Adam Beck, will be arranged for March 23 or 24. W. C. Bush, secretary of the Niagara District Union, communicated with the controller, expressing belief that the time was opportune to have the municipalities lined up and start an educational campaign with Hamilton as the place of the inaugural meeting. The controller expects to be in Ottawa shortly to discuss matters with the Dominion Commission using the private hydro telephone line between Toronto and Hamilton yesterday, he arranged an appointment with J. H. Pope, secretary of the commission at Ottawa.

An unknown man was struck by a street car at the corner of Sherman

Yes, There is a Nickel Mystery!

That there is a nickel mystery in Ontario is an idea which received some support from Mr. Sam Carter when discussing the public revenue from that source in the budget debate. One of the mystifying features was the striking contrast between the provincial treasurer's pugnacious declaration of what he would do to the insurance companies if they sought to evade their taxation, and his complacent willingness to wait for the report of the commission before requiring the payment of the nickel company's three per cent. on net profit. The treasurer so aggressively belligerent toward the insurance companies and so mildly tolerant toward the nickel miners, deepened the sense of mystery.

The nickel-producing company is moving along quietly and paying \$40,000 a year. Issued statements disclose a turnover last year of \$17,618,000. This shows a marked contrast with the \$5,109,000 reported a year ago. But the most striking contrast of all is that between the three per cent. tax required by the provincial treasurer, and the \$40,000 a year paid for three years and still appearing all the expenses of the provincial treasurer. The treasurer thinks that the elusive influence known as a pull may afford an explanation. Statements are being published which would afford ample guidance for enforcing the taxation law. But there is a commission at work investigating whether the revenue is being neglected.

There was an air of mystery about the investigation carried out to discover if any of the output of Ontario's nickel mining industry was reshipped to other parts of the empire. The delicacy and hesitancy manifested were quite different from the vigorous and aggressive course that marks and should mark the actions of our governments toward every matter related to the war. The difference would have awakened a strong curiosity were it not that the public felt the necessity of leaving matters in official hands in time of national conflict. But when the matter is one of enforcing a taxation law by a government borrowing on a gigantic scale and eager to make a passable financial showing, explanation on any discoverable ground becomes elusive. Is there a nickel mystery?—Editorial, Toronto Globe.

The Globe wants to know if there is "a nickel mystery in Ontario," and substantially charges Hon. Mr. McGarry, provincial treasurer, with unfaithfulness to his trust in not enforcing the law against the International Nickel Company. The treasurer took no notice of the charge in closing the budget debate yesterday afternoon. Why?

And yet the nickel company is not only evading payment of its just revenue tax to the province but it is able to stall off any attempt to compel the refining of the ore in Ontario. Why?

Because, first: The government at Ottawa and Toronto do not see fit to tackle this great, powerful, and extraordinarily rich corporation which has its headquarters and business, and part of its ownership in the States, and the rest (of the ownership) in Germany.

Second: Because Mr. N. Wesley Rowell, the leader of the opposition here, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Ottawa, do not go after these governments on their lack of national policy in nickel. So also The Globe.

The Globe must know the explanation of the mystery. If it does not it ought to ask the chief agent of the International Nickel Company the next time he calls round.

In the meantime it is believed by some that the governments concerned are not so much waiting for the long delayed report of the Ontario Nickel Commission as they are waiting for the conclusion of some arrangement now under way over in the States, which in the guise of national policy will strengthen the nickel monopoly more than ever, tho it may include a sop to the submissive Canadians!

NOVA SCOTIA TO HAVE COMPLETE PROHIBITION

Halifax, Which Alone Had Liquor Licenses, is Also to Go Dry.

HALIFAX, March 15.—By a vote of 28 to 3 the house of assembly this morning rejected the motion to give the three months' hoist on the bill bringing Halifax under the operation of the N.S. Temperance Act that is to bring about complete prohibition into force in this city, and sent the bill to the committee of the whole house.

When names were called for only the three members for Halifax stood up against the bill. All the other members of the house, practically the complete membership, voted against the amendment and for the bill.

Good Service. Besides presenting the best menu obtainable, we endeavor to give the very best of service in the special hotel fresh business men luncheon, served at fifty cents, from 11.30 to 2.30.

FRENCH OCCUPY ISLAND OFF COAST OF EPIRUS

LONDON, March 16, 2.32 a.m.—French troops have occupied the 18-mile island of Paxo, off the coast of Epirus.

WAR SUMMARY THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

(Continued from Page 1).

erals they realize when their men are in a fix, and they hesitate to sacrifice a single person under their command in a hopeless adventure.

From a remark let drop in Paris yesterday the allies may soon take trenches from the Germans in a wholesale way, for the French have howitzers that are being turned in the factories of Lloyd George and they are expected to be vastly superior to the heaviest German guns. In the fighting for Verdun, the Germans brought up mostly 13-inch and 15-inch howitzers. The report that they were using 17-inch howitzers and artillery experts have repeatedly said that the chief reliance of the Germans was placed on the Austrian Skoda siege gun and that weapon is a 13-inch piece. The Germans also use a great many 8 and 9-inch weapons. Putting the 20-inch allied howitzer alongside of these 13-inch guns you can easily figure out the superiority of the allied weapon. The striking forces of guns compare as the cube of their diameter. Thus a 20-inch allied howitzer would compare in striking power with a 13-inch Skoda howitzer as about four to one. This is the sort of artillery which the Germans will confront when the allies blow their bugles for a general advance.

The importance of the victory won by General Jan Christian Smuts over the Germans in Eastern Africa is revealed by the latest news which shows that the Germans are now in rapid retreat southward, that they are much demoralized, that they left behind a great many dead on the battlefield of Kitovo and that, pushing after them with horse, foot, and artillery, General Smuts has occupied Mushi and is making for Arusha, which is believed to have been evacuated. Three machine guns and one cannon, which the Germans abandoned in their flight, have been discovered by the British. The finding of a great many bodies at Kitovo indicates that the British are equipped with a powerful artillery, for when the South African troops captured the key position, the Germans, having enough of the fighting, began to retreat under cover of night, so that the bulk of the dead were probably not victims of infantry fighting but of gun fire.

It is now confirmed that Von Tirpitz, German naval minister, has retired, for the German newspapers are publishing notices to this effect. The reason for the shelving of the father of submarine piracy can well be surmised. It was on March 1 that the new German submarine campaign was to have begun against allied merchantmen "armed with guns," a Washington wanted Germany to delay this fresh piratical program and Washington was informed that its request came too late, for the new submarines had already put out to sea. But the submarines which were sent out to sea have apparently all disappeared and the slight damage done to British merchant shipping has been mostly by mines as usual. Von Tirpitz has sent out his corsairs, so his fall is not as a result of the success of his submarine policy, but as a result of its failure. It was the British navy that caused its collapse.

The British army in Flanders is mainly concerned with siege operations and artillery bombardments and patrol raids are still chiefly in order. British aeroplanes had many brushes with the German machines yesterday and one of the British reconnaissance squadrons beat off a formidable air attack. A German captive balloon was bombed and forced to descend by a ventu,ous aviator.

The only word that came directly out of Mesopotamia was contained in an official communique issued by the war office in London last night, recording the carrying out of an attack on the Turks who had established an advanced position on the Tigris River. A British column went out before dawn of March 11 and assaulted the position. In the fighting, a considerable number of Turks were bayoneted and two officers and 15 men were taken prisoner.

The Italians continue to make headway with their new general offensive and they scored yesterday several important points over the Austrians. Progress was made in the Isonzo zone by the Italian infantry and much bombardment was done by the Italian artillery.

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(Continued from Page 1).

erals they realize when their men are in a fix, and they hesitate to sacrifice a single person under their command in a hopeless adventure.

From a remark let drop in Paris yesterday the allies may soon take trenches from the Germans in a wholesale way, for the French have howitzers that are being turned in the factories of Lloyd George and they are expected to be vastly superior to the heaviest German guns. In the fighting for Verdun, the Germans brought up mostly 13-inch and 15-inch howitzers. The report that they were using 17-inch howitzers and artillery experts have repeatedly said that the chief reliance of the Germans was placed on the Austrian Skoda siege gun and that weapon is a 13-inch piece. The Germans also use a great many 8 and 9-inch weapons. Putting the 20-inch allied howitzer alongside of these 13-inch guns you can easily figure out the superiority of the allied weapon. The striking forces of guns compare as the cube of their diameter. Thus a 20-inch allied howitzer would compare in striking power with a 13-inch Skoda howitzer as about four to one. This is the sort of artillery which the Germans will confront when the allies blow their bugles for a general advance.

The importance of the victory won by General Jan Christian Smuts over the Germans in Eastern Africa is revealed by the latest news which shows that the Germans are now in rapid retreat southward, that they are much demoralized, that they left behind a great many dead on the battlefield of Kitovo and that, pushing after them with horse, foot, and artillery, General Smuts has occupied Mushi and is making for Arusha, which is believed to have been evacuated. Three machine guns and one cannon, which the Germans abandoned in their flight, have been discovered by the British. The finding of a great many bodies at Kitovo indicates that the British are equipped with a powerful artillery, for when the South African troops captured the key position, the Germans, having enough of the fighting, began to