

# The Daily Telegraph

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## FRENCH GAIN FRESH SUCCESSSES ON THE WESTERN FRONT; DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES STIRRED BY FURTHER REPORTS

### SLANDER LAUNDER, THE TORY SCHEME

Sir Wilfrid Reads Scandalous Campaign Pamphlet Issued By Rogers' Bureau

Makes Borden Squirm When He Calls on Postmaster-General to Prove Its Falsity—Premier Makes Lame Defence of the Libel and Waves the Old Flag—Bill to Give Soldier's a Vote Causes Sharp Discussion—Men in Trenches to Cast Ballots for Party and Not Candidates—No Safeguards to Provide for Honest Balloting.

(Special to The Telegraph.)  
Ottawa, April 9.—Sudden parliamentary light today was cast upon the character and extent of the election preparations of the Borden government. While in parliament Sir Robert Borden has repeatedly paid tribute to the hearty co-operation and assistance of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in Canada's war programme, and Sir George Foster, who eloquently over the "justification of public life in Canada," made manifest by the trust of the Federal Press Agency of the Conservative party at Ottawa, of which the premier is the titular head, and Hon. Robert Rogers, the manager, has been busy, night and day, turning out campaign pamphlets and literature seeking to turn the tragedy of Britain's great war to petty political advantage.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier rose when the house met this morning to speak to national opinion. He declared that the Liberal leader has made it a life rule to ignore the many petty personal and political criticisms which come from time to time to the lot of the public man. It was only because the document to which he today directed attention bore the official imprimatur of the political party of the government, and was issued at a time when all Canada was eagerly and earnestly giving its best in sacrifice and service in the common cause of empire, that he felt it incumbent to speak out.

The leaflet was entitled Laurier and Quebec. It stated that at one time Sir Wilfrid Laurier had declared that the Empire was in danger he would stump Quebec. Now the Empire is in danger, but Sir Wilfrid Laurier had not stumped Quebec.

The leaflet continued: "Did he call for any recruits? Not a bit of it. His lips were sealed in so far as any appeal to his fellow countrymen was concerned. Why? Because he now, as ever, cares not a whit for the Empire. Vote Conservative for Borden backs Britain."

"It is very seldom, if it is ever, that I have seen in calling the attention of the house and the country to them." Speaking with considerable feeling, the Liberal chief declared that he had deemed himself privileged to perform an assisting French-Canadian enlistment.

He had only to call as a witness the postmaster-general, T. Chase (Canadian). Together they had attended and spoken at meetings in Montreal held for the purpose of urging French-Canadian enlistment. Mr. Laurier was not then a minister of the crown, but on the occasion represented the government. Sir Wilfrid had embraced the opportunity to address the Montreal Reform Club along the same lines.

"My heart is very much in the fight," said Sir Wilfrid, amid cheers. "The fight in which Britain is engaged. I would eagerly have done more if more were glad to have the testimony of the prime minister and the minister of defence, that French-Canadians had nobly answered the appeals made for service (Renewed cheers.) Only this morning had received a letter stating that the French-Canadians were still crowding the recruiting offices and that many more were offering their services than were required."

Continuing, Sir Wilfrid stated he felt it just to those he represented in all parts of Canada as well as to himself to characterize the leaflet as "a falsehood and malicious libel and slander."

As their leader took his seat the Liberal services today at the Methodist church, in addition to appropriate hymns, the choir sang two very pretty numbers. Why? Because he now, as ever, cares not a whit for the Empire. Vote Conservative for Borden backs Britain."

### WHERE THE SPRING DRIVE BEGINS



The Champagne and Argonne section of the western battle front where the French are pressing hard and successfully on the German lines.

### PERSISTENT RUMORS THAT GERMANS ARE TO ATTACK HOLLAND

Dutch Opposed to War But Their Army is Ready—Austria and Russia—Stiff Contest in the Mountains—Meagre News from the Battlefields, But There is Evidently Much Fighting.

London, April 9, 10.30 p. m.—There were persistent rumors in London this evening that Germany had either declared war on Holland or that her troops had occupied that strip of Dutch territory that extends from the Belgian frontier on the coast to the River Scheldt. The reports lack confirmation, and are not credited by those who should know if either action had been taken.

It is possible that the reports arose from the news received in the last few days from Dutch sources that the Germans were strengthening their positions around the Dutch frontier and that much uneasiness prevailed at The Hague and other Dutch cities as a result of the seizure or sinking of Dutch steamers by German submarines.

The Dutch are strongly opposed to intervention in the war, but their army is ready to repel any invasion of Dutch territory, complete preparations with that object being made long ago.

Another diplomatic report which has created immense interest is that from Rome to the effect that Austria is seeking a separate peace with Russia. This, likewise, lacks confirmation, and is not credited, as it is not considered likely that Germany would be sending reinforcements to the Carpathians, if there were any serious doubt of Austria's loyalty to her ally.

Italy takes the matter more seriously than the other nations, for should the Austrians be able to permit all elements of Canada serving the empire to exercise their franchise, providing a scheme could be worked out, after consultation and approval of Lord Kitchener and the British war office, whereby the sacredness of the ballot could be assured, the paramount duty of the soldier not in France but in the mountains, for should he practically the only serious expression of conviction on the measure submitted to the house. He expressed himself as favoring the proposal to permit all elements of Canada serving the empire to exercise their franchise, providing a scheme could be worked out, after consultation and approval of Lord Kitchener and the British war office, whereby the sacredness of the ballot could be assured, the paramount duty of the soldier not in France but in the mountains, for should he practically the only serious expression of conviction on the measure submitted to the house.

### SAYS ALLIED FLEET WILL FORCE DARDANELLES WHEN COMBINED LAND AND SEA ATTACK IS MADE

Rome, April 9.—General Pers, the French leader, who is returning from his tour of the Russian front and the Balkan peninsula, arrived in Rome from Syracuse this morning. He declared that the allied fleet will force the Dardanelles as soon as the combined land and sea attack is started.

London, April 9, 2.05 p. m.—The Daily Telegraph's Athens correspondent says he learns from Deledaghat that several transports of the Allies, escorted by warships, were distinctly visible Wednesday morning in splendid weather off Enos, and that it was supposed troops were being disembarked along the Turkish coast.

London, April 9, 11.05 p. m.—French troops from Africa are ready to assist the allied fleets and British expeditionary forces against Turkey. The following official statement was issued by the war office tonight:

"The expeditionary corps of the Orient which was placed under command of General G. L. D'Amade and concentrated leaving Abidin Palace, a native fired shot at him. This went wide, and the active was immediately seized. The sultan paid his intended visit to various officials, and a crowd assembled around the palace and gave him an ovation when he returned. His assailant, in a statement, described himself as an Egyptian, 25 years of age, and a merchant hailing from Mansurah. He was perfectly composed."

### GERMAN CONTEMPT FOR DUTCH NEUTRALITY

London, April 9, 6.02 a. m.—A neutral correspondent of the Times, who has been travelling in Germany, says that among the German people, especially those of military rank and caste, the opinion is strong that nothing will prevent Antwerp and the strip of Belgian coast stretching to the line to the German frontier, south of Dutch Limburg, from belonging henceforth to Germany.

They agree, the correspondent says, in some cases, to let the rest go, as they admit it would be a too long and difficult task for the Germans to take the whole of Belgium. "It is also declared," the correspondent continues, "that if Germany does not take a strip of Holland during this war, the time will soon be ripe for her to take Flanders and the mouth of the Scheldt with sufficient land on each side. Dutch neutrality is spoken of with the utmost contempt. Germany is making preparations on the Dutch frontier, especially on both sides of Limburg province, in view of a possible attack. Several lines of trenches have been constructed in these regions, and the troops are kept ready."

### THE EDNA M. SMITH LOST WITH FIVE OF HER CREW

London, April 9, 9.15 p. m.—David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, replied today to a charge made by James Keir Hardie at the meeting of the Independent Labor party at Norwich, that the chancellor had maltreated and insulted workmen, and that, as a result, work has gone around the world that "the working classes were a set of drunken wretches."

"The chancellor declares that he parroted what he saw in a minority of the men against whom the charge of excessive drinking was made, and repeats the statement that 'the drinking habits of the minority have the effect of seriously diminishing the output of the materials at a time when the success of the Allies depends entirely upon that material being largely increased.'"

Mr. Lloyd George says that fact has been established by independent inquiries, made on behalf of the government, the results of which will soon be published.

### OTTAWA HEARS COL. McLEAN WILL QUIT POLITICS

Is to Be Given Command of a Brigade in the Third Contingent.

(Special to The Telegraph.)  
Ottawa, April 9.—It is learned by your correspondent that Lieut-Colonel H. H. McLean, M. P., is to be given command of a brigade in the third contingent.

Colonel McLean, it is understood, is retiring from politics.

### Thought to Be Transport

Rio Janeiro, April 8.—The British steamer Ismaila came into Rio Janeiro today, and no sooner had she dropped anchor than speculation was rife as to her real character.

She has on board 146 passengers, and the captain declares his destination is the Falkland Islands. Lack of coal compelled him to come in here. He declined any further explanation, nor has it been possible to learn why such a large number of passengers are going to the Falklands.

### AMMUNITION TO TURKEY THROUGH ROUMANIA, IT IS SAID

London, April 9, 2.21 a. m.—Considerable supplies of ammunition and artillery are reaching Turkey through Roumania, according to the Daily Mail's Athens correspondent. The Roumanian minister to Turkey is quoted by the correspondent as having said that Germany refused to deliver certain gun parts ordered some time ago by Roumania unless Roumania consented to allow Turkish shipments passage through Roumania.

### A WARLIKE ORDER

London, April 9.—Italian steamers in American ports have been ordered to postpone all sailings until April 20, according to a Rome dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

### RISK PROBLEM OVER SHADOWS WAR INTEREST

### Great Britain is Shaken by Agitation for Prohibition—Supplies Hidden Against "Famine."

London, April 2.—The question of prohibition in the British Isles as a war measure has seized upon public attention to the extent of overshadowing the military operations.

Public opinion is divided between favoring total prohibition and favoring stringent control of the liquor traffic. The former view is the more advanced, and the latter is the more conservative. The former view is the more advanced, and the latter is the more conservative.

Wine and beer are already being hidden in large quantities. Beer is being brewed in back yards, hidden in attics, and under coal cellars and pushed up to unusual channels.

The sudden shutting off of the sale of this is certain to be dramatic. It is likely that it will be done at night by the police and the inland revenue officers, as happened in Russia.

Full page advertisements appear in the morning papers, and the morning with petitions which readers are requested to cut out and send to Chancellor of the Exchequer.

While the public is divided it is believed that the prohibition for the duration of the war, the government under the defence of the realm act has the power to enforce such a measure if it deems best without further enabling legislation.

### Hopewell Hill News

Hopewell Hill, April 4.—The April session of the Albert circuit court opens this afternoon at Hopewell Hill.

Two criminal cases will come before the grand jury. Judge Crockett will preside, and the crown prosecutor will be Daniel Mullin, Esq., of St. John. Mr. Fowler, M.P., is to be present in the interest of the defence in at least one case.