

NEW DOMINION PARLIAMENT OPENED THIS MORNING

DEBATE ON CALLS TO A SPEEDY PARLIAMENTARY EFFORT

Gov.-General Urges Every Energy Be Used in Prosecution of War—Good Fellowship Feature of Animated Scenes at Ottawa—No Seat Yet Assigned White.

Ottawa, March 18.—Animated scenes greeted the formal opening of the House this morning for the purpose of electing a speaker. The corridors of the House were thronged with members, new and old. The new members, who number 125, were mostly here. In the Commons chamber, Mr. W. S. R. Northrup, the new clerk of the House, and the other officers were busy engaged in the preliminary work of the day. The first couple of hours of the day were devoted to the election of a speaker. The members of the House, who are expected to arrive in Ottawa, will be housed in the Hotel Cecil, which is being converted into a temporary barracks. The House will be opened at 10 o'clock.

Good Feeling Prevails.
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The Throne Speech.
The following is the speech from the throne delivered by the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Chancellor, at the opening of the House of Commons on Monday, March 18, 1918.

After nearly four years of war the issue still remains undecided. The effort which we have made, and which we shall not shrink from making, is to win the war. We have made a great deal of progress, but we have not yet won the war. We must continue to fight with the same determination and courage as we have shown in the past. We must not allow ourselves to be discouraged by the difficulties which we face. We must continue to fight until we have won the war.

Must Not Be Discouraged.
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To Develop the Land.
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Constantine's Spies Placed Under Arrest.
Athens, March 17.—Two Greek officials who were landed on the west coast of the Peloponnese by a German submarine, have been arrested. They are said to have been sent to obtain information on the state of the kingdom, and to have received instructions personally from the former ruler.

AUSTRIA STARTS TO DEMOBILIZE

Amsterdam, March 17.—A Vienna dispatch to the "Vossische Zeitung" of Berlin says demobilization of three of the oldest Landsturm levies serving with the Austrian forces, consisting of men born in 1867, 1868 and 1869, will begin immediately, and will be completed by May, October and December respectively.

NO HUN DRIVE ON WEST FRONT
Washington, March 18.—Germany's threat of a great spring offensive on the western front no longer impresses American military men. In its weekly review today, the war department records the conclusion that the offensive will not be launched unless forced into it. It is becoming more and more evident that the offensive will not be launched unless forced into it. It is becoming more and more evident that the offensive will not be launched unless forced into it.

Defensive Concentration.
The nature of the information upon which the opinion is based is not disclosed. It is noted that fresh German divisions have been moved to the western front and the German lines are said to be approaching the point in density beyond which it is impossible to go without choking communication lines and hampering free movement of reinforcements. The offensive, however, is said to be defensive, not an offensive movement.

UNEASY FEELING IN NEW PARLIAMENT AS SEATS ARE OCCUPIED
[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, March 18.—It was a somewhat awkward and self-conscious House which gathered this morning for the election of a speaker. Apart from the fact that there were a hundred and twenty-five new members, most of whom were newcomers to the House, the new House was a somewhat awkward and self-conscious House.

THIRTY PERSONS PERISH IN PARIS EXPLOSION
Paris, Friday, March 15.—Two very violent explosions today in a factory at La Courbe, near Paris, caused the deaths of sixteen persons and the injury of a large number, mostly slight. The explosions were caused by a gas leak in a boiler. The factory was a large one, and the explosion was very violent.

POPE THINKS TEUTONS WILL RESPECT VATICAN
Rome, Monday, March 11.—The Austro-German war machine is being organized; munitions and heavy artillery are being moved to the front. The Pope, however, is of the opinion that the Teutons will respect the Vatican. He is of the opinion that the Teutons will respect the Vatican.

STUPENDOUS AIR RAIDS BY FLIERS OF BRITAIN OVER CITIES OF ENEMY
London, March 18.—The British air force has been very active in the past few days. It has been very active in the past few days. It has been very active in the past few days. It has been very active in the past few days.

BRANTFORD IS BREWING A GREAT TIME FOR 'FIRSTS'
Brantford, March 18.—As soon as the news was received this morning that the men of the "Original Firsts" were to be here on Tuesday or Wednesday, steps were taken by the local soldiers' aid committee to prepare a fitting reception. The men were met by a band, and a banquet was given for them.

THE WEATHER
LOCAL TEMPERATURES.
Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 51; lowest, 35. The official temperatures for the 12 hours ending 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 38; lowest, 27.

SEVENTEENTH PARADE WAS OFF AT MONTREAL
Montreal, March 18.—St. Patrick's Day parade, which usually is one of the big events of the year in Montreal, was not held yesterday, out of respect to the memory of John Redmond, who died on the 10th inst. A large number of people, however, gathered in the city to celebrate the day.

AUSTRALIA WILL FREE ALL SHIPS FOR ALLIES
London, March 18.—The Australian Government, according to a dispatch to the Times from Sydney, has completed a scheme which frees all large ocean-going ships for the use of the Allies. A pool, which will control 120 ships engaged in coastal trade, will be formed.

TEUTON TROOPS FAR IN RUSSIA

Occupy Two Cities Southwest of Moscow—Balked at One Point.

London, March 18.—German troops have occupied Iakimach and Kozlov (in the Province of Tchernigov, about 250 miles southwest of Moscow), but were forced to retire from Iakimach on the 17th inst. The German troops are now occupying two cities southwest of Moscow. They were forced to retire from Iakimach on the 17th inst.

SWISS "CALL" GERMAN BULLY OVER SINKING
Demand Indemnity For the Torpedoing of Grain Ship.

Berne, Friday, March 15.—The Swiss Government has sent a note to the German Government demanding the payment of an indemnity for the sinking of the grain ship "Sardinia". The note also demands a careful investigation of the circumstances by the German authorities.

DRUGGISTS OPPOSING CLAUSE IN PROPOSED VENEREAL DISEASE ACT
Would Not Bar Selling of "Patent" Remedies.

Toronto, March 17.—Druggists are opposed to the clause in the Government's bill dealing with venereal diseases which prohibits the sale of "patent" remedies. The druggists are of the opinion that the sale of "patent" remedies should not be prohibited.

FRENCH ARMIES NEVER IN BETTER CONDITION FOR GREAT OFFENSIVE
French Front in France, Friday, March 15.—The activity of the enemy forces on any particular sector must not be taken as an indication that the long-proclaimed offensive is about to occur there. It would be hasty judgment to conclude anything of the kind.

NO CRIMINAL CASES FOR ASSIZE COURT WHICH OPENED TODAY
Grand Jurors Therefore Dismissed—Settlements Likely.

The spring assizes of the supreme court opened at the court house this afternoon, Chief Justice Sir Glenholme FitzGibbon presiding. The court was opened by the reading of the opening prayer by the Rev. Canon H. B. Waterhouse. The court was opened by the reading of the opening prayer by the Rev. Canon H. B. Waterhouse.

MAKES MAJORITY 4,353
Official Election Returns for London Riding Show 3,313 Soldiers' Votes.

GERMANS CUT CABLE BETWEEN SWEDEN AND THE ALAND ISLANDS
Stockholm, March 17.—Communication with Helsingfors and other points in Southern Finland has been broken. The Germans have cut the cable between Sweden and the Aland Islands.

TWO YEARS IN PRISON FOR INSUBORDINATION
Winnipeg, March 18.—Four conscientious objectors, convicted on Friday at Minto Barracks on a charge of insubordination, have been sent to the penitentiary for two years each with hard labor. The men are Robert Clegg, Ralph Nash, Charles Matheson, and Cedric Wright. Clegg is an international Bible student, who laid charges of ill-treatment against officers in the Minto Barracks recently.

'ORIGINAL FIRSTS' NOW ON WAY TO THIS CITY; LANDED ON SUNDAY

Big Parties of Officers and Men En Route to London, Including Many Who Left With First Contingent in 1914—Majors Hunt, Wilson and Hale, Captains Greenlees, Wheable and Insley Returning.

Long expected, Canada's "Original Firsts" are now on their way home. Sunday morning more than 2,000 men of the first Canadian contingent, landed at St. John, N. B., from two British transports. The London members of this quota are expected here on Tuesday.

RHODES NAMED SPEAKER
Sir Wilfrid Approves Selection of Young Cumberland Member as Commons Boss.

Ottawa, March 18.—After the return of the members to the Commons chamber this morning, Sir Robert Borden, in a brief speech, nominated Sir H. Rhodes as speaker of the House, to that office. He said that the speaker was a man of high quality of intellect, great courtesy and the most perfect impartiality. Mr. Rhodes, he said, were that he were a speaker of the House, he would be a speaker of the House.

RECRUITING STILL EQUALS RESULTS OF M.S.A. ENFORCEMENT
Recruiting continues to rival the military service act as a means of raising men. During the first half of the month of March no less than 25,000 men were recruited. This is a very good result, considering the fact that the military service act has not yet been enforced.

PHILIP SMITH, SARNIA, DROWNED AT HALIFAX
Halifax, March 18.—Philip Smith, an employee of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, was drowned in an early hour yesterday morning. He was on night duty and was coming back to his quarters when he fell into the harbor. He called for help, but a watchman on the shore was asleep and did not hear him. He was found by a fisherman and was brought back to the shore.

HARRY JAMES SMITH, KITCHENER AUTHOR, IS KILLED IN B. C. CRASH
New Westminster, B. C., March 18.—Harry James Smith of Kitchener, Ontario, author and playwright, on a special mission in the Pacific northwest as a sphagnum moss collector for the American Red Cross, was killed at Murrayville, B. C., late Saturday when a train struck his automobile. The driver of the car was seriously injured.

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YOUNG MAN HELD OVER MURDER AT MONTREAL
Montreal, March 18.—The police have not yet arrested the suspected murderer of H. Gagnier, who was stabbed to death on Thursday evening, but they are holding a young man in the belief that he can throw some light on the murder.

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