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The Toronto World

THURSDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 21 1918 —FOURTEEN PAGES

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VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,616 TWO CENTS

GERMAN LINES IN LORRAINE ARE PENETRATED TO GREAT DEPTH

FRENCH SMASH GERMAN LINES IN BIG ATTACK

Allyes Deeply Penetrate Enemy Defences Northeast of Nancy. WIDE GAP BROKEN IN Four Hundred Prisoners Are Speedily Sent Back to Headquarters.

Paris, Feb. 20.—French detachments made a heavy attack on the Germans in Lorraine today, entering the German lines over a large front and capturing more than 400 prisoners, according to the war office announcement tonight. The text of the statement reads: "In the Argonne we repulsed an attack at Four de Paris and inflicted appreciable losses on the enemy. "In Lorraine, north of Bures and east of Moncel (northwest of Nancy) our detachments penetrated the German lines deeply on a large front. This operation, brilliantly carried out, enabled us to bring back prisoners, the number of which are known to exceed 400. "In the Vosges there was quite marked artillery fighting in the region of La Fave. "Aviation: On Feb. 19 four German airplanes were brought down by our pilots. A fifth was destroyed by our special fliers. The other German machines fell inside their own lines seriously damaged after engagements."

BAPTISTS TO ASK BRITISH PREMIER TO VISIT CANADA

Capt. (Rev.) John MacNeill to Tender Invitation Officially. LEADING MINISTER, TOO As Soon as War is Over, These Two Are Asked to Come to Dominion.

Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, prime minister of Great Britain, is to be formally and officially tendered an invitation to visit the Dominion of Canada at the earliest convenient time after the close of the war. The invitation is to be presented to the British premier by Capt. (Rev.) John MacNeill and the other Canadian Baptist chaplains overseas, on behalf of the Baptists of the Dominion of Canada. Detailed plans for sending the invitation will be made with Capt. MacNeill during his approaching furlough in Toronto. He is at present at the front in France as a member of the active staff of the Canadian Young Men's Christian Association military field department. The reasons for the movement to bring their distinguished co-religionist to Canada have been issued in a statement to the members of the Ontario Baptist Union which says: "What more natural than an invitation to go forward at once to our great British premier to visit Canada as our guest, and that along with Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, the Baptist Union of Great Britain be asked to send out one of their leading ministers. The Baptists of England have rarely sent a notable address to the Baptists of the United States, and President Wilson wrote a word of thanks and commendation of this message. "Soon the war will be over, we hope, and with the first man in the empire a worthy Baptist, it is our hope that Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George will have gone forth ere this."

EMBARGO ON CHICKENS

None, Either Alive or Dead, May Be Taken Out of Canada. Special to The Toronto World. Windsor, Feb. 20.—Effective today, chickens, either live or dressed, must not be taken out of Canada until April 1. This was the substance of an order received today by Collector of Customs J. A. Smith from Ottawa.

AIR MACHINES ACTIVE ALONG ITALIAN FRONT

Enemy Camps Are Raided, With Success, and Fires Started. Rome, Feb. 20.—The official communication from headquarters today says: "On the whole front the usual harassing actions were carried out by the opposing aeroplanes; they were more intense west of the Frenzela Valley and along the coast regions. "At Messo Lago and east of Pertica, strong enemy detachments attempting to reach our position were repulsed; a few prisoners remained in our hands. "Aerial activity on both sides was marked along the front lines. At dawn a squadron of British machines surprised the aviation ground at Casarsa and bombed it with very good effect; an airship shed was destroyed. "At night one of our squadrons reached the aviation camp at Lacolina and dropped two tons of explosives, causing a large fire. All of our machines and those of the allies returned without damage."

CRISIS IN SHIPPING PASSES; CURVE TO CONTINUE UPWARD

Allies Overcome Submarine Peril—Conditions Will Steadily Improve. THREE WEEKS OF GAIN New Factors Will Aid Efforts to Put New Vessels in Service.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Overseas tonnage available to America and the allies passed its low point about Feb. 1, several weeks earlier than shipping experts had predicted. Officials believe the upward curve will continue until the war is ended, unless difficulties not now foreseen are encountered. Attention was called today to the satisfactory results obtained in the campaign against enemy submarines, to the fact that government ships are now coming from America in great numbers, and to the progress of negotiations for neutral vessels to be used in the non-hazardous trades to release other shipping for overseas carrying. When experts first plotted the curve of the tonnage supply, taking into consideration the greatest shortage of submarines and all possible contingencies in the domestic situation, they found that the number of vessels available for transporting troops and supplies would be lower toward the end of this month than at any other period. Knowledge that the Germans sank about six million tons of ships in 1917, nearly three times as much as was produced in Great Britain and the United States, did not change their estimates. For the last three weeks now the charts of the shipping board have shown a steady upward trend. Officials think that from now on new factors will aid rather than retard the efforts to put more ships into service. Chief of these will be the restriction of imports, made effective Feb. 15, the results of which will not be noticeable for weeks yet. As more ships are needed they will be withdrawn from the neutral trade, and commerce with those countries curtailed to that extent. Officials declined to say what was the dominating factor in checking the decline in available tonnage, tho it is well known that optimistic opinions are held regarding the anti-submarine campaign. "Despite the troubles, confidence is expressed that the goal of 4,000,000 tons of shipping will be built in this country this year. The labor question is regarded as the determining factor in the domestic situation. Supplies have been assured for all the ships planned. If men can be obtained officials believe the ships will be turned out on time."

Former Hamilton Man Shot By Hold-Up Men in Detroit

Special to The Toronto World. Detroit, Mich., Feb. 20.—Ernest F. Mayer, 47 years old, is dying in a receiving hospital, physicians say, from the effects of a bullet in his chest fired by two hold-up men who entered his butcher shop at 722 E. Liberty avenue early tonight. Mayer is a former resident of Hamilton. He came to Detroit in 1913 and has been engaged in the meat business since that time. At 11 p.m. he was still alive, but with only slight chances of recovery. It was still daylight when the pair came into the shop, picking their time apparently when no customers were in the place. Their order to Mayer to hand over the cash and store receipts was quickly followed by two shots which he made a show of resistance. One bullet is imbedded in his chest, the other struck one hand.

AUSTRIA STOPS FIGHTING UPON RUSSIAN SOIL

Vienna Government Refuses to Take Military Action With Germany. WANTS NO MORE WAR Von Seydler Reports Twenty Thousand Prisoners Already Returned.

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—The Austrian premier, Dr. von Seydler, speaking in the reichsrath today, entered into a long defence of the original treaty of peace with Ukraine and announced a subsequent treaty appointing a commission to define the frontiers of Ukraine and Chelm (Chelm). "The Petrograd government," he said, "has declared the state of war between Russia and Austria-Hungary at an end, and so far as human judgment can foresee, a state of war will not again arise between these two countries. "Responding to German cries of help from Estonia and Livonia, Germany resolved to march further into the interior in order to liberate certain districts those unhappy nationals living in those provinces. In full accord with our allies we decided not to participate in this military action. Our aim, therefore, remains what it was before—to bring help as speedily as possible to the Austro-Hungarian nationals still on Russian soil. "Dr. von Seydler announced that twenty thousand prisoners had already returned to Austria-Hungary and that negotiations would be resumed with a view to the exchange of prisoners. In explaining the appointment of the commission, the premier declared that the future of Chelm would depend upon race principles and the desires of the population. Russia, he said, had demanded for itself the right of all peoples to self-determination, even to the extent of complete severance. "We accepted this standpoint for the occupied territories," he continued, "and all the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk were conducted on this basis. We recognized this right for the peoples of Lithuania, Courland and Pomerania, and also for the Ukrainians who can be discovered for depriving the Ukrainians of the right granted to other Russian peoples. "The members of the Polish club cannot deny the existence of a large Ukrainian population in Chelm, and that this nation has the right to be heard. I go even further and say it was the duty of the Austro-Hungarian Government to conclude peace with the Ukrainians."

ALLIES GET READY FOR HEAVY ATTACK

Severe Strain Expected From Largest German Army Yet Encountered.

MADE BIG CAPTURES

British Army's Success—Gunpower Greatly Increased This Year.

London, Feb. 20.—The British captures in the past year included 167 heavy howitzers, 68 heavy guns, 438 field guns, 1055 trench mortars and 234 machine guns. This statement was made by James Ian MacPherson, parliamentary under-secretary for war, in introducing the army estimates in the house of commons today. Under-Secretary MacPherson said that the strength of the German army was already far greater on the western front than at any previous period, and also the allies at present are superior in men and guns, the balance must soon be in favor of the enemy. The allies must be prepared for a determined offensive at an early date, but all measures to meet the situation had been taken. "The strain on the British troops and those of the allies, he added, might be severe, but the successes of the British and French armies in the past year had inspired all ranks to the belief in their ability to hold their own. British gun-power had increased by almost fifty per cent during the past year, and the army was doing everything possible to economize with a view of saving tonnage. These economies would save two million tons in the distant theatres of the war this year."

WEATHER VAGARIES EXCEED THE LIMIT

Mercury Accomplishes Tobogganing Stunt From High Up on Scale.

FLOODS SOON CONGEAL

Rapid Change in Twenty-Four Hours Makes Walking Risky.

"First it rained and then it blew. Then it froze and then it snowed. Then there came a shower of rain. And then it froze and snow again. "Weather?" contemptuously queried a disgusted Torontonion yesterday afternoon as he fairly slid down the middle of the street, one of the real hilly brand, common to the Scarborough Beach district. Look here, the sidewalks were slippery one day, not attempt to navigate them, and the middle of this street is even worse. I usually walk in the street itself because there is at least enough snow there to make it fairly easy going. But would you ask a candidate to crawl along this slippery mess? "A very pertinent question. The sidewalks were as slippery as usual, if not more so, but the streets were worse than they have been in the past twenty-four hours in the vicinity. They were nothing less than skating rinks. They were, indeed, so even in their slipperiness that the little children tobogganed down the hills without the aid of toboggans, merely sitting down in the middle of the street and sliding down at the rate of an express train. "Twenty-four hours past the weather has been in the nature of a sea-saw, fine and mild at two o'clock in the morning and about zero at the same time in the afternoon. A snow this minute and a hard freeze the next. This state of affairs was well exemplified during the manoeuvres of the past twenty-four hours in the vicinity of the Don. At two o'clock in the morning yesterday there was grim excitement on the Don flats, and especially at a good many in the vicinity of tracks at Rosedale. At seven in the morning the rails were about a foot under the water and the whole country was behind a sheet of ice. Sections, was flooded. This was due to the ice jam in the vicinity of Gerrard street bridge. At about noon the water was about zero at the same time. The German embassy at Madrid, sent money to anarchists agitators and committed the imprudence of writing to them. The propaganda thus financed, adds this paper, was directed not only against public order, but even against the person of the king. The revelations have had a deep effect in Madrid. At the request of the Spanish authorities a safe conduct thru France has been granted to Capt. von Krohn, the former German naval attaché at Madrid, whose recall was requested by the Spanish Government. Von Krohn's family will also be permitted to travel thru France on condition that they conform to all necessary measures prescribed by the authorities."

ENEMY SUBSIDIZES ANARCHY IN SPAIN

Second Secretary to German Embassy Found Deeply Involved.

PROPAGANDA AGAINST KING

Kaiser's Naval Attaché at Madrid Sent Home by Government.

Paris, Feb. 20.—Close relations between the German embassy at Madrid and the most notorious anarchists in Spain have been brought to light, according to The Matin. The newspaper has published documents to prove that Dr. von Strohmer, second secretary of the German embassy at Madrid, sent money to anarchist agitators and committed the imprudence of writing to them. The propaganda thus financed, adds this paper, was directed not only against public order, but even against the person of the king. The revelations have had a deep effect in Madrid. At the request of the Spanish authorities a safe conduct thru France has been granted to Capt. von Krohn, the former German naval attaché at Madrid, whose recall was requested by the Spanish Government. Von Krohn's family will also be permitted to travel thru France on condition that they conform to all necessary measures prescribed by the authorities."

ENEMY CONTINUES RUSSIA'S INVASION

Germans Pass Point, Sixty-Five Miles Distant From Naval Base of Revel.

AUSTRIANS MOVE ONWARD

Gen. Linsingen Directs March on Kovel—Estonia Entered by Kaiser's Force.

BRITISH ADVANCE NEAR JERUSALEM

Gen. Allenby's Forces Gain Two Miles on Fifteen-Mile Front.

CANADIANS IN BIG RAID AND SUFFER NO LOSSES

FEWER SINKINGS THE PAST WEEK

Returns of F.ft on Victims of Submarines Show Diminution.

London, Feb. 20.—British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in the past week numbered fifteen, according to the admiralty statement issued tonight. Of these, twelve were of 1600 tons or over and three were under that tonnage. One fishing craft also was sunk. "The arrivals at ports in the United Kingdom for the week numbered 2323 sailings, 2388. Eight vessels were unsuccessfully attacked. "The sinkings for the past week show a slight diminution from the previous week, when 19 merchantmen were sunk, 12 of 1600 tons or more and 6 under that tonnage."

ENEMY ADMITS UKRAINE HAS ONLY ONE BORDER—REST UNDEFINED.

Enemy Admits Ukraine Has Only One Border—Rest Undefined.

RUSSIA NOT SINCERE

Von Kuehlmann No Longer Credits Pacific Intentions of Bolsheviki.

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, at the opening session of the German Reichstag today delivered an address to the members in which he dealt at length with the peace treaty signed by the central powers with the Ukraine and the collapse of the peace negotiations with Russia. Count von Hertling, the imperial German chancellor, and Friedrich von Payer, the vice-chancellor, were attentive listeners to the address. Dr. von Kuehlmann asserted that the pacific intentions of Russia could no longer be credited, but he said that ever today Germany was prepared to conclude a peace which corresponds with our interests. He referred especially to the advantages which the Teutonic allies would derive during the present year from the economic treaty with the Ukraine and recommended the approval of the compact. Speaking on the first reading of the Ukraine treaty, Dr. von Kuehlmann said the Ukraine People's Republic was a young state reared on the ground of the former Russian Empire. The Ukrainian race was one of the strongest elements of the Russian Empire. In respect to its minerals, coal and iron, the Ukraine was probably the most richly endowed of its own industry. The great Russian representatives of Bolsheviki, the foreign secretary continued, maintained friendly relations with the Ukraine as long as Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, could assume that the people's republic would maintain friendly relations with the Ukraine and would direct their policies according to the interests of the Petrograd cabinet. "No Frontiers. "The negotiations were not quite as easy as in most cases with such young peoples," said Dr. von Kuehlmann. "The demarcation of the frontier with the Ukraine had to be left for a later period—after discussions with the Russian Government then in power. The only thing that concerned us was to lay down the west frontiers of the new state, in which the demarcation of the frontiers as regards Poland received the most attention and experienced the heaviest criticism from the Poles." Dr. von Kuehlmann said that without being too sanguine he believed the country hailed peace with the Ukrainians with relief and joy. "The first step toward the restoration of a general peace which we all hope to attain within measurable time."

BRITISH SCOOP IN PRISONERS IN PATROLLING SOUTH WING

London, Feb. 20.—The report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters tonight says: "A few prisoners were brought in by our patrols on the southern portion of the front. A raid was attempted by the enemy early this morning east of Arras, but was repulsed. "The hostile artillery has shown some activity during the day in the neighborhood of St. Quentin and southwest of La Bassée."

SEVERAL PATROL ATTACKS BEATEN BY PORTUGUESE IN FRANCE

Paris, Feb. 20.—A Portuguese official communication issued today dealing with the operations of the Portuguese forces on the western front says: "During the past week we have repulsed several patrol attacks and captured one officer and two men belonging to these patrols."

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GERMANS ACCEPT PEACE WITH STATE WITHOUT FRONTIERS

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KILL OR WOUND MANY GERMANS, TAKE SIX PRISONERS, BOMB DUGOUTS AND PENETRATE LINE IN TWO PLACES.

By W. A. Willison. Canadian Headquarters in France, Feb. 19.—Armed with rifles, revolvers or bombs, according to choice, but largely with their pet club, the Knicker, the men of a Winnipeg regiment raided German trenches this morning just south and east of Avion. In less than 20 minutes they had captured 6 Boches, killed and wounded many more, and had broken their way into the enemy line in two places. Bombed his dugouts, and returned safely to their own line without suffering a single casualty. The first minutes before the attackers went over the top our eighteen-pounders and four, five, six and eight-inch guns swept the enemy line and a machine gun, firing as the Winnipeg men went forward until our guns were covering while our trenches with a box barrage, while our machine guns were directed towards the enemy supporting artillery was further confusing an already confused enemy. Under the fire of our guns the raiders went across in two parties. One to the right went over in the open, meeting increasing opposition until the light developed into a hand-to-hand struggle on the enemy parapet, in which at least three of the enemy were killed, while a Lewis machine gun, which had been active, was taken care of by a supporting patrol. The party to the left had a machine gun until they reached the open and encountered an enemy post. In a moment the opposition was overcome and two prisoners were on the way to our line. Captured Prisoners. The left party then divided into two groups, one bombing the dugouts to a point beyond the objective, while the other worked up to a slag heap where a hostile party of three were reduced to one dead and two prisoners. Upon withdrawing the latter group picked up another couple of Hunns who were endeavoring to escape from our men to the right, and who just stopped the triumphant return long enough to dispose of an enemy party of five, killing two. Seven minutes after our barrage opened the enemy bombarded our lines heavily, while nervously throwing up flames all along his front. Interest was added to the subsequent identification of the prisoners by the fact that the men captured were from 23 years old, and were enemies whom the Canadians had thrashed soundly at Passchendaele, and who had come down from the salient only two days ago. This afternoon Canada in France paid reverent tribute to the memory of the Canadian gunners who fell in action during the Vimy Ridge operations. Gen. Currie unveiling a memorial erected to the gallant dead by the Canadian Artillery Corps. Sir Julian Byng was present, and with him was Gen. Sir H. S. Horne, commanding the 1st Army.

LEFT THE HOUSE AS A PROTEST

Manitoba Opposition Resents Government's Refusal to Consider Criticisms.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 20.—The opposition in the Manitoba Legislature walked out of the house this afternoon in protest against the alleged action of the government in refusing to consider their criticism of government expenditures since 1914. The opposition members were Albert Prefontaine, leader; P. A. Talbot and Jos. Hamelin, F. J. Dixon, independent, who also criticized the government along the same lines, remained in his seat. P. A. Talbot, financial critic of the opposition, moved the adjournment of the house, and began a complaint that the government majority had voted down in committee all the opposition's suggestions for the pruning of expenses. He gave a list totaling \$602,570, of items to which the opposition objected, including the keeping up of several land titles offices that no longer had sufficient business for the retention of a special school organizer and a compiler-general. He then walked to the door. The other members of the opposition then asked for their indemnity checks, which were not ready, and left the house.

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