

OFFICE FOR RENT

444 Yonge St., Cor. King and Yonge... H. H. WILLIAMS & CO., 88 King East.

The Toronto World

STORE FOR RENT

442 Yonge St., Cor. Carlton, \$150 per month, plus taxes. Three good display windows, and six-room living quarters.

TUESDAY MORNING MARCH 21 1916 -FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXVI.—No. 12,914

RUSSIANS CAPTURE VILLAGES IN DISTRICT SOUTH OF DVINSK

French Repulse Violent German Attack Near Malancourt, West of Meuse Provinces and Local Option Areas Can Exclude Liquor

SMALL FRENCH FORCE DELAYED FOE'S ADVANCE

Covering Troops Fought First Stage of Battle of Verdun. STAFF HAD TO BE WARY Reinforcements Sent Up When Seen Where Main Blow Was Falling.

HEROIC FRENCH EXPLOITS WIN BRITISH ADMIRATION

Gen. Joffre, in Reply to Message of Sir Douglas Haig, Thanks British Army for Offering Speediest Aid. PARIS, March 20.—8 p.m.—Replying to a telegram from Gen. Sir Douglas Haig, the British commander-in-chief, regretting the French losses in "the great battle which is still raging," and expressing the British army's admiration for the heroic exploits of the "unconquerable soldiers of France," Gen. Joffre, the French commander-in-chief, says: "In the fierce struggle it is carrying on, the French army knows that it will obtain results advantageous to all the allies, and knows also that when recently it made an appeal to the comradeship of the British army, the latter responded by offering its most complete and speediest aid."

RUSSIANS SEIZE VILLAGES IN LIVELY ENGAGEMENTS

Sharp Fighting in Lake District Near Dvinsk Ends in German Discomfiture—Important Dniester Bridgehead Taken by Gen. Ivanoff. LONDON, March 20.—The fighting which the Germans referred to in their official communiqués as a new Russian offensive in the lake district to the south of Dvinsk is reported by Petrograd as having lively artillery and infantry engagements in several sections to the south of the Dvinsk district. In these combats the Russians had the advantage, storming and capturing Velikoieselo, east of the town of Tveretch, and occupying Zanapess village and a section of the German trenches near Ostrovitany, after an engagement between Lakes Narocz and wicnevskaia. The Russians also repulsed by their fire a German attempt to advance on the sector south of Lake Dvinsk, and they dispersed by their fire a German detachment which attempted to penetrate their lines in the region of Lake Kanger. A bridgehead east of Mikhaltshe on the Dniester, in Galicia, and some trenches in the vicinity, were captured by the Russians under Gen. Ivanoff in a sharp attack. The Germans reported today that regardless of heavy losses the Russians attacked them repeatedly with strong forces on both sides of Postavy and between Narocz and Drisviaty lakes, and that German troops advanced and drove back were entirely fruitless and that German troops advanced and drove back some Russian divisions about Vidzy. One officer and 280 men belonging to seven different regiments were captured.

FOE ATTACK ON ANOTHER FRONT THROWN BACK

Heavy Assault on Avocourt-Malancourt Sector Checked by French. USED JETS OF FLAME Poisonous Gas Reservoirs of Huns Exploded by French in Argonne.

EACH PROVINCE MUST DECIDE POLICY OF LIQUOR EXCLUSION

POINTS IN ANTI-LIQUOR LAW Provinces which vote for prohibition can, by legislation, prevent importation of liquor. The shipper, carrier and receiver of such liquor would be liable to criminal prosecution. "Wet" provinces can prevent importation of liquor into districts under local option by legislation to that effect. No offence will be committed by shipping liquor into a province which does not forbid the sale or consumption of liquor. Enforcement of the law, which will take effect immediately on its passage, is left to provincial authorities. The constitutionality of the act can be challenged in the courts, but the government is confident of its position.

Doherty Introduces Enabling Legislation While Two Other Prohibition Resolutions Are Before the House—Provinces Charged With Duty of Enforcing Federal Law.

By a Staff Reporter. OTTAWA, March 20.—Three propositions dealing with the question of prohibition are now before the house. One is the resolution offered by Mr. Stevens (Vancouver), calling for nation-wide prohibition, which was debated somewhat at length a fortnight ago. A second is the government measure introduced in the house today by the minister of justice, making it a criminal offence to import liquor into a dry province or into municipalities under local option. The third is a resolution offered by Mr. Hughes (Kings, P.E.I.), asking for an amendment to the B.N.A. Act, which will empower the provinces to prohibit the manufacture and importation of intoxicating liquors.

AMERICAN SECURITIES ARE STILL MOBILIZED

Britain's Program Has Not Been Modified, Despite Current Rumors. LONDON, March 20.—There is no indication of any discontinuance of the mobilization of American securities, the usual list of treasury quotations on which appeared today. Rumors have been current for some days that common shares would shortly be removed from the list, but no action on this has yet been taken.

Villa and Wilhelm

These two men are in the eyes of the people of America today; the murderer of Mexico, the murderer of Europe. The Mexican is a saint compared to the Prussian; the first has slain his hundreds; the other his millions. The Mexican admits he is of the Devil; the Prussian claims that he is of God. One a cultured German Emperor, the other a cultured Mexican Emperor. President Wilson has sent an army against Villa, who slaughtered a score of Americans; he sent a dozen state papers made up of hand-picked phrases to Wilhelm, who murdered hundreds of innocent Americans, including a Vanderbilt and a Dr. Pearson. The Americans remembered the sailors on the Maine; they may forget the children and women on the Lusitania. Villa, dead or alive; Wilhelm, a censor swung before him as a great king. And yet a Mexican war arising out of a hunt after Villa may cost much more than to have declared war on Prussia. We do not say that the United States should have made war on Prussia; we do say they may be making war on the object of the attack, according to the French war office, was to enlarge the German front. Previous to the attack the French noticed the assembling of groups of Germans to the north of this Avocourt.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

LONDON, March 20.—Abandoning their attacks at least for the time being on the section of the Meuse front lying to the east of the western bank between Bethincourt and Le Mort Homme, the Germans essayed with a fresh division to gain ground on the three-mile front which extends between Avocourt and Malancourt, west of Bethincourt, and about ten to twelve miles northwest of Verdun, and they were repulsed. The attack only made slight progress at a point in the eastern part of the Malancourt wood. The French caught the advancing Germans with a machine gun fire as well as with infantry volleys, breaking the force of their onset and inflicting heavy losses upon them. French Division Brought Up. The attack was only prepared for a fresh division was brought up by the enemy from a remote part of the front to effect what was regarded as a surprise blow. It was begun with great violence and it was attended by the use of jets of liquid flame. The French war office, says to enlarge the German front. Previous to the attack the French noticed the assembling of groups of Germans to the north of this Avocourt.

DIRECT CHARGES MADE ON OATH BY LIQUOR MEN

Testimony Against McNab, Sheppard and Cawthorpe at Regina Inquiry. MONEY AND PARTY AID Definite Allegations Made of Stifling of Prosecution Under Agreements.

REGINA, Sask., March 20.—Four of the twenty charges into which opposition counsel have subdivided the general charges referred to the Brown-Elwood royal commission were opened before it today and the evidence taken. The four opened were two against Hon. A. P. McNab, minister of public works, of stifling prosecutions for political support; one against Hon. J. A. Sheppard, Speaker of the assembly, of accepting money for obtaining a liquor license, and one against C. H. Cawthorpe, M.L.A. for Biggar, of accepting money for stifling prosecutions against a liquor licensee. The charges. The charges read as follows: "That in 1913 J. A. Sheppard received \$700 from H. H. Meade of Moose Jaw on behalf of applicants for a liquor license for an hotel in Limerick, Sask. "That in 1914, C. H. Cawthorpe received \$100 from John Marking, a liquor licensee of Biggar, in consideration of stifling an alleged complaint against him, or, in the alternative, that said Cawthorpe obtained from the said Marking the \$100 under circumstances amounting to obtaining money under false pretences. "That in December, 1915 Hon. A. P. McNab was a party to having charges

HOSTILITY TO GERMANY INCREASES IN HOLLAND

Treachorous Attack on Palembang Has Added Fuel to Fire. OPENLY DISCUSS WAR Germany's Pretensions of Innocence Entirely Fail to Carry Weight.

LONDON, March 20.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent sends the following comment from the Socialist newspaper Het Volk concerning the sinking of Dutch vessels: "It would be folly to deny that excitement among the people is increasing since the treacherous attack on Palembang. It is a serious sign that the leading newspapers no longer suppress statements as to the possibility of war. "Few here attach credence to the German official assurance that the steamer Tubantia was not torpedoed by a German submarine. Great Britain never thus far has torpedoed a neutral vessel, while Germany has done so countless times. "The correspondent adds that the jet Volk, however, jumped and cap, was seen making his way rapidly forward along the deck of the New Zealand liner steamer Matatus shortly before fire was discovered in No. 2 hold early Sunday morning, March 12, was given this afternoon at an enquiry into the origin of the blaze which was begun in the forenoon by Captain J. A. Demers, Dominion wreck commissioner. This testimony was given by Wm. Riley, foreman of the stevedores.

DID HOLLAND DESPATCH SEVERE NOTE TO HUNS?

Netherlands Foreign Office Denies Knowledge of Such a Communication. LONDON, March 20, 6:18 p.m.—The Netherlands foreign office declares that nothing is known there concerning the severe note from Holland to Germany in connection with the Tubantia, announced in the newspaper Nieuwe West-Indische Gids, says a Reuter despatch from The Hague. The foreign minister is conferring with representatives of the navigation companies, the correspondent adds.

ITALY IS SHREWD IN ATTITUDE TOWARD HUNS

Declaration of War Withheld for Strategic and Other Reasons. DIPLOMACY INVOLVED Dr. Roselli of Brooklyn Replies to Rather Persistent Query.

MONTREAL, March 20.—"Why is not Italy officially at war with Germany?" This question was answered by Dr. Bruno Roselli of Adelphi College, Brooklyn, in an address before the Canadian Club of Montreal today on the subject: "Italy's Peculiar Position in the World War." He gave three reasons: First, strategic, because a force of half a million men, hurled with great vigor from the southernmost part of the indentation made by the Adriatic towards the heart of the Po Valley would have to cross only 40 miles of level ground before reaching the Adriatic and cutting off three-quarters of the Italian army. Second, psychological, because while the Italians hate the Austrians, they do not hate the Germans, some northern cities in Italy being peopled largely by German descendants. Third, diplomatic, because Switzerland, with 70 per cent. of her population German-Swiss, would either join Germany or allow German troops to cross her territory to reach Italy. "Is it worth while?" The governments of the allied countries know it is not," said Dr. Roselli.

U.S. TROOPS SOON TO CLASH WITH VILLA

First Battle May Be Fought Within Day or Two. BEATEN BY FEDERALS? Villa Reported to Have Met Defeat in Fight Near Cruces.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 20.—Francisco Villa may be forced into the fight with American troops within the next 36 hours if reports coming to Gen. Pershing's headquarters, both from Gen. Pershing and from Mexican sources, are correct. Gen. Pershing reported today that Villa had been reported defeated by Mexican Government troops near Cruces and that he was marching northward in retreat. Gen. Pershing report, however, was followed by the unofficial report that Villa was still fighting at Namiquipa, south of Cruces. If the Carranza force wins in the fighting that was said to be continuing late today, Villa will have to move northward along a road over which a detachment of American troops is riding southward or leave the road for the mountains on either side. Retreat according to the report is impracticable because of the presence in the rear of Mexican troops, who forced him to turn northward from Cruces. Just where Gen. Pershing is was not announced, but he is directing the work of the three detachments and by means of scouts is attempting to keep in communication.

FUNDS OF SAO PAULO RETAINED BY GERMANY

Brazilian Government Asked to Help in Restoration of Big Sum. RIO JANEIRO, March 20.—The secretary of finance of the State of Sao Paulo, in conference with the President of Brazil, Dr. Wenceslau Braz, and the minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Lauro Muller, has requested the federal government to reach an agreement with the German Government for the protection of the interests of Sao Paulo in the matter of \$2,000,000 sterling deposited in a bank in Berlin to the account of Sao Paulo. This money, the German Government has refused to release before the end of the war.

WAR SUMMARY THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

SPARING the sorely-ried German infantry, that is being closely held to its trenches by the French army of Verdun, the German high command yesterday brought up fresh forces amounting to a division from a distant part of the western front, and attacked the sector lying between Avocourt and Malancourt, just beyond the zone of the recent heavy fighting and west of the Meuse, but the French were ready to give their foes a rough reception, for they poured into their oncoming ranks such a terrific fire from artillery, machine guns, and rifles as to defeat this attempt. Only a slight footing was gained in the eastern part of the Malancourt wood by the Germans, but this area is so small as to be out of the counting. The Germans employed here the infernal weapon of jets of flame. The attack had been well prepared for by a heavy bombardment with shells of large calibre. Judging from the telegram of General Joffre, in reply to the telegram of Sir Douglas Haig, who expressed regret at the French losses, but expressed the great admiration of the British army for the heroic exploits of the unconquerable soldiers of France, one cannot consider the battle of Verdun as yet being over. In his reply, General Joffre says that the French army knows that "when recently it made an appeal to the comradeship of the British army, the latter responded by offering its most complete and speediest aid." This reference probably is to the lending of some units of the Army Medical Corps to the force at Verdun. "In the fierce struggle which it is carrying on," says Joffre, "the French army knows that it will obtain results advantageous to all the allies." In watching for any further developments north of Verdun, it should be remembered that the critical positions are Poivre hill and Douaumont ridge. The carrying of the hill would enable the Germans to turn the French right, and the carrying of the ridge would enable the Germans to pierce the French centre. In the event of either mishap, the French troops would speedily have to clear out from their present positions, which may roughly be described as the Louvemont ridge. They also could hardly avoid the loss of a considerable number of men as prisoners, and a considerable quantity of material as spoils of war, and the Germans might even get into Verdun, but as the French have firmly maintained virtually the same lines for three weeks, it is highly improbable that the Germans will ever be able to dislodge them. But seeing that the offensive has been already so much advertised, and that its failure might be followed by grave consequences, Greece, it is said, now beginning to lean towards the cause

(Continued on Page 2, Columns 1 and 2.)

ANNEXATION OF EPIRUS IS CREATING CONCERN

Rome Regards Greek Action as Violating Pact Respecting Albania. ROME, March 20.—(Via Paris.)—Advices received here from Athens, that a royal decree has been issued proclaiming the annexation of northern Epirus, Albania, to Greece, is causing some concern. The annexation being regarded in official circles as a violation of the decision of the London conference concerning Albania. A despatch from Athens March 8 said Greece had decided to proceed to the complete financial and administrative assimilation of the provinces of northern Epirus, deputies from which had already been seated in the Greek chamber.

DROPS SMOKE BOMBS BY FRENCH BATTERY

German Aviator Tries Innovation in Attempting to Secure Range. PARIS, March 20, 4 p.m.—A German aviator has dropped several smoke bombs near a French battery. It is reported from the front. This is the first time since the war began that such bombs have been used. Not in themselves dangerous, the bombs give forth an intense smoke, which persists for a long time and serves as a guide for the hostile artillery.

A SUPERB HAT FOR MEN.

Hats from Mossant, Verdun and Argod just arrived. These are most exquisite felt hats for men, by the famous French makers. The shapes are strikingly original and becoming, while the colors are all the popular shades in slates, browns and greens. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, corner Temperance street.

