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Senate Reading Room  
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## GERMANS REPULSED AT ALL POINTS AT VERDUN

### Portugal Lines Up With Allies Against Germany—Russians Will Attack Trebizond by Land and Sea—Mexicans Lose Heavily in Battle With U.S. Troops—Gen. Smuts Wins Success in German East Africa. British Defeat Turks, Who Soon Are Expected to Quit

#### TURKS' DEFENCE TO COLLAPSE IN EARLY SPRING

#### Petrograd Predicts Speedy Winding Up of Campaign of Grand Duke.

#### TO ATTACK TREBIZOND

#### Russians Prepare for Great Combined Assault by Land and Sea.

#### RETROGRAD, via London, March 9.—The final collapse of the Turkish campaign in the early spring is constantly predicted by the Russian military critics, who base their assertions upon the remarkable progress the Russian army is making along the Black Sea coast and in Persia. The critics find increasing evidence of demoralization among the Turks and inability to continue in their organized positions. The past week has brought the northern and southern Russian Caucasian armies considerably nearer their immediate objectives. The recent victories in Persia will enable the Russians to push forward over the mountain ranges hitherto considered impassable to a point within 25 miles of the Mesopotamian border while the troops moving along the Black Sea coast under the protection of the Black Sea fleet are now within a like distance of Trebizond. The capture of Riza leaves no important coastal defence on the way to Trebizond and a combined land and sea attack on Turkey's most important Black Sea port is now being prepared for.

#### According to all reports the Turks have done everything they could to improve the fortifications at Trebizond, but it is believed here that they have not had sufficient time to bring up the necessary reinforcements to withstand a sustained Russian assault.

#### READ WAS ARRESTED WHY NOT LAVERGNE?

#### Verville Thinks There Has Been Miscarriage of Justice Somewhere.

#### By a Staff Reporter.

#### OTTAWA, Ont., March 9.—Mr. Verville has given notice of questions about the incarceration of Read at Calgary for section 84, why he should be treated differently from Armand Lavergne. Read was given 15 months, and Mr. Verville asked what sedition words he used. Were they more offensive than those used by Armand Lavergne in the legislative assembly at Quebec? Does the government intend to liberate Jack Read, and if not, why not? Will equal rights be given to Read and Lavergne, and if not, why not?

#### By a Staff Reporter.

#### OTTAWA, Ont., March 9.—Mr. Bennett, the Conservative member for Calgary, delivered a speech in the house of commons today, which many think may herald his coming into the cabinet. He was given a hard position to hold on behalf of the government, but he did battle so well as to arouse the greatest enthusiasm.

#### F. B. Carvell, Carleton, N.B., again assailed the government benches by resuming the debate upon the motion for a committee to investigate the transactions of the shell committee.

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#### BRITISH PRISONERS IN HANDS OF THE TURKS

#### Fewer Than Seven Hundred All told, It Has Been Learned.

#### LONDON, March 9.—Six hundred and sixty-one British soldiers are prisoners in the hands of the Turks, according to information secured thru the United States embassy at Constantinople. Of these 491 were taken at the Dardanelles and 170 in Mesopotamia. Among the prisoners are 32 officers.

#### It was officially announced that the total number of British and colonial wounded and missing at the Dardanelles was 11,554, of whom 323 were officers.

#### NEW TYPE OF HELMET FOR GERMAN LOOKOUTS

#### It is of Massive Steel Construction and Hard to Distinguish.

#### PARIS, March 9, 5.25 p.m.—German lookouts in advanced posts are wearing new armor-coated steel helmets, consisting of a headpiece proper weighing slightly more than two pounds with a heavy detachable steel plating, which is very thick and weighs over four pounds. The total weight of the headpiece thus is nearly seven pounds. The helmet is entirely without ornament and is of a dull gray color.

#### General Accused of Slipping to New York to See Allison.

#### BENNETT STRIKES BACK

#### Eloquent Defence of Government's Attitude Toward Proposed Shell Inquiry.

#### By a Staff Reporter.

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#### IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY IN TORONTO YESTERDAY



Bishop Sweeny blessing the colors presented to Lieut.-Col. Beckett's 75th Battalion by Mayor Church, Canon Dixon and Major Baynes-Reed, chaplain, are with the bishop, and took part in the ceremony. Major Forbes Keith is on the right and Lieut. Clark on the left.

#### SASKATCHEWAN JUDGES ARE WILLING TO PROBE

#### Government Will Not Give Opposition Any Say in Appointments.

#### REGINA, March 9.—The Saskatchewan Government refused the opposition claim to some say in the appointment and the terms of the royal commission. In deference to the wishes of Chief Justice Haultain and his colleagues the personnel of the commission will not be made known over the floor of the house in advance. The chief justice and the five supreme court justices have signified their willingness to serve.

#### PORTUGAL HAS JOINED CAUSE AGAINST HUNS

#### Germany Declared War as Result of Seizure of Ships.

#### SPAIN IS DISTURBED

#### Cabinet Meets to Consider Situation—Portugal's Attitude Pleases Britain.

#### Special Cable to The Toronto World.

#### LONDON, March 9.—Keen satisfaction is expressed here tonight over the unbending attitude of Portugal, which has forced Germany to declare war against Britain's "ancient ally." Early in the war Portugal announced that by the terms of its old treaty it considered itself bound to give passive if not more vigorous support to Britain, and the recent seizure of German ships was regarded here as evidence of the steady growth of Portuguese hostility toward the central powers.

#### From Lisbon tonight comes word that large numbers of German rest-

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#### GERMAN DYES ORDERED FOR THE UNION JACKS

#### Canadian Firm Refused Flags Because American Dyes Were Used.

#### NEW YORK, March 9.—Because 17,400 Union Jacks made in this country for Great Britain were colored with American instead of German dyes, they were refused by the firm in Canada placing the order, where they were sent last July for shipment to England, according to disclosures made in court here today. The Syndicate Publishing Co. of this city, which obtained an order for several hundred thousand flags, is now being sued for breach of contract by John C. Deitra & Co., Inc., whose factory in Pennsylvania made the Union Jacks. In a counter-suit brought against the manufacturers the publishing company seeks to recover damages on the ground that the order for the flags specified that they should be treated or finished with German dyes.

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#### TURKS DEFEATED BY BRITISH ON ROAD TO KUT-EL-AMARA

#### General Aylmer Dislodges Them From Nasrie Position, Driving Them to Essinn, Where He is Being Held Up.

#### Special Cable to The Toronto World.

#### LONDON, March 9.—The British Expeditionary Force in Mesopotamia has attacked the Turks, who were barring the way to Kut-el-Amara and General Townsend at Nasrie, 25 miles east of Kut, and pushed on to Essinn, seven miles east of Kut, where they attacked the Turks yesterday but failed to dislodge them. The British casualties were not heavy and, in the majority of the cases, the wounds were slight. The Turks, on the other hand, suffered severely in the fighting.

#### The British official statement on the operations is as follows: "General Lake (commander of the British forces), reports that General Aylmer (in command of the relieving forces) advanced on March 6 and, moving by the right bank of the Tigris, reached Essinn, a position about seven miles east of Kut-el-Amara. This position was attacked March 8, but General Aylmer was unable to dislodge the enemy.

#### "General Aylmer states that the enemy suffered very severely, and, beyond strengthening his position, has shown no activity. Our casualties were not heavy, and, in the majority of cases, were very slight."

#### BRITISH FORCES PENETRATE INTO GERMAN EAST AFRICA

#### LONDON, March 9.—The following official communication concerning the operations of British forces in East Africa was made public tonight: "Troops under command of Lieutenant-General Smuts have advanced against the German forces in the Kilimanjaro (Northernmost part of German East Africa). On March 7 Smuts seized the crossings of the Lumi River with an insignificant loss. Several counter-attacks by the enemy were successfully repulsed."

#### VILLA'S FORCES HOTLY ENGAGED BY U.S. TROOPS

#### Raiders Reported to Have Lost Hundreds in Killed and Wounded.

#### AMERICANS MURDERED MORE GAINS IN WOODS

#### At Least Sixteen Killed at Columbus—Bandits Chased Over Border.

#### FRANCISCO VILLA, outlawed Mexican bandit, raided United States territory today. With 500 men he attacked Columbus, killed at least 16 Americans, and fired many buildings before he was driven back across the international border.

#### At least 250 troopers of the 13th United States Cavalry followed the Villa band into Mexico. Reports to Col. H. J. Slocum, commanding United States troops at this point, late today, stated that Villa had made a stand five miles south of the border, where spirited fighting ensued. In this engagement an unnamed private was killed, and Capt. George Williams, adjutant of the 13th Cavalry, was wounded.

#### The small detachment of troopers under Major Frank Tompkins and Elmer Lindsley, fighting dismounted, made a determined stand against the renewed Villa attack, and at last reports were holding their ground.

#### Bandits Fought Fiercely.

#### The bodies of 18 of the bandits, including Pablo Lopez, second in command, had been gathered and burned before noon, and troopers reported an undetermined number of dead still lying in the bush. Led to the attack under the slogan: "Death to the Americans," Villa's followers fought with desperation. Just before dawn they crept along ditches skirting the United States cavalry camp and rushed the sleeping town, firing heavily.

#### The first volley brought American troopers into almost instant action. While a portion of the troopers engaged the cavalrymen, others began applying the torch and shooting American civilians who ventured from the buildings. Lights in homes and public buildings immediately became targets.

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#### REBELS MADE ATTACK ON CHINESE GUNBOAT

#### Troublemakers From Portuguese Dependency of Macao Have Been Captured.

#### PEKING, March 9, 9 p.m.—Revolutionists on a launch from the Portuguese dependency of Macao today attacked the gunboat Sul-Wo near Canton with bombs and rifles. The Sul-Wo repulsed the attack and captured the revolutionists.

#### LONDON, March 9.—The foreign office has received no official advices that Turkey is seeking peace.

#### However, the impression prevails from what is known of conditions in Turkey that there is a strong probability of an early move in that direction.

## WAR SUMMARY

### THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

THE Germans suffered a severe repulse at every point along the battle line on both sides of the Meuse on the front north of Verdun yesterday, at the hands of the French, whose counter-attacks developed greater force and rolled back the waves of men that were thrown against the strong lines of defence. The crucial points of the battle were at Bethincourt, its extreme western limit, where the French held out firmly and successfully; the Bois de Corbeaux (Crown Wood), where the French gained considerably more ground; Vaux fort and village, where the Germans were driven back, and at the foot of the Vaux ridges, where the trenches of the French proved impregnable.

Posen troops were brought up by the Germans for the first time, and they were badly used up in the fighting about Vaux village. The Germans appear resolved to continue the fighting till exhausted, as they continued it against Riga last autumn, long weeks after all chances of gaining a success there had been dissipated. Having brought large reinforcements to northern France and Belgium, they seem to be unable to risk the removing of these men to the eastern front or to the Balkans to begin an offensive against Saloniki, a three months' task, and so they continue their offensive against the allies in the west, in the hopes of winning some advantage, or, at least, of preventing the allies from winning a success from them in a positive way before something may turn up to put a new complexion on the situation.

The London War Office reported last night that Sir Percy Lake, Commander-in-chief of the British expeditionary force in Mes-

opotamia, has attacked the Turks, who were barring the way to Kut-el-Amara and General Townsend at Nasrie, 25 miles east of Kut, and pushed on to Essinn, seven miles east of Kut, where they attacked the Turks yesterday but failed to dislodge them. The British casualties were not heavy and, in the majority of the cases, the wounds were slight. The Turks, on the other hand, suffered severely in the fighting.

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Queen's Park has been the scene of many imposing military ceremonies, but never in the history of Toronto has such an impressive spectacle been seen as the presentation of the colors to the 75th Battalion, which took place yesterday in front of the parliament buildings. The presentation was made by Lieutenant-Governor Sir John Hendrie. This is the first time in Toronto that colors were presented to a regiment about to go overseas.

Fully equipped, the battalion, with Lieut.-Colonel S. G. Beckett in command, arrived at the park just before 2.30 o'clock, and took up its position in a hollow square, standing at attention with bayonets fixed and facing the main entrance of the house, where a platform had been erected. As the men obeyed the orders of their commanding officer the bayonets glistened and the scene was one which will never be forgotten.

The 230th Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by Miss Hendrie, and attended by Lieut.-Colonels Clyde Caldwell and Alex. Fraser, arrived in front of the buildings, and shortly afterwards General Legie and staff drove up and took position behind the stand of drums which had been given, and with the party, and a number of members from the legislature were also present.

Three N. C. O.'s preserved the place for the color party, which consisted of Lieuts. A. B. Lindsay and Benson Wright and Serjt.-Majors Hall and Hassard. Marching from the rear of the battalion the serjt.-majors brought up the colors, which were received by Senior Major D. F. Keith and Junior

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