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Franchise Discussed in Commons

Premier Asquith Outlines the Decision of the Government on the Matter—Sir Ed. Carson Urges That Every Combatant Irrespective of Age Should be Entitled to Vote

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The decision of the cabinet as to undertaking new franchise registration reforms in the midst of the great war, was that it is too complex and controversial a problem. This was announced by Premier Asquith in the Commons to-day. At a time when the war has reached a happy and promising stage, when it more than ever required the absolute concentration of the government it was impossible to consider the larger questions involved in the revision of the franchise. He further implied that any new bill for franchise reforms in the future must of necessity include women. After brief criticism by Sir Edward Carson who argued that every combatant, irrespective of age, was entitled to vote, contending there was no reason why women's claims should stand in the way of giving all combatants the vote, the House passed the first reading of a Bill extending the franchise to women. A separate Bill bringing into force the new franchise laws on present qualifications on May 31 next, will be introduced into the House to-morrow. There is no doubt that one of the main reasons for the government's avoidance of the franchise problem was the threat by women that they would refuse to recognize any change of franchise in favor of fighting men which failed at the same time to recognize women's right to the franchise.

When the Premier made the announcement on Aug. 1 that he would introduce the bill, he said he intended at the same time to announce the government's proposals regarding registration. To-day, however, Mr. Asquith said it was not the purpose of the Government to ask Parliament at this time to take up the alteration of qualifications for the franchise. Dealing with the suggestion that the franchise should be extended to all soldiers and munitions workers, Mr. Asquith said that these were the gravest difficulties in the way; and that there were serious objections from the military viewpoint of holding a general election among troops in the field. He added general enfranchisement had been brought face to face with another problem? He was bound to say, the Premier went on, that representatives of women had presented him with a perfectly unanswerable case. They were content to abide by the present franchise, but would urge their claims if qualifications for the franchise altered.

No Truth in Berlin Statement

LONDON, Aug. 15.—A British Press Bureau statement issued this evening, controverts the German official statement with regard to the locality where the Lasso was sunk, saying the destroyer was sent to the bottom a few miles off the Dutch coast, and not in the Channel as the German Admiralty pretends.

German Sub Sunk By Swede Cruiser?

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 15.—Dagens Nyheder to-day publishes a rumor that a German submarine was sunk by a Swedish cruiser between Stockholm and Sargard on Thursday last.

New Italian Dreadnought Is Blown Up

"Leonard Da Vinci" is Blown up and 300 of Her Crew Drowned—Magazine Exploded Before Ship Could be Beached—Fire Spread Rapidly—Ship Was New One

PARIS, Aug. 15.—The Italian dreadnought Leonard da Vinci caught on fire and blew up in the harbor of Taranto, Italy and 300 of her crew were drowned says a Turin despatch to the Petit Journal. The date of the disaster is given only as a day in August. The fire says the despatch was discovered in the kitchen and spread rapidly. Capt. Immy ordered the magazines flooded and tried to beach the ship, but the magazine exploded before this could be done. The vessel was turned over on her side, and a large number of the crew were thrown into the sea. [The Leonard da Vinci was a battleship built in 1914, carried a crew of 999 men, had a speed of 23 knots, and was 23,240 tons displacement. She carried 13 12-inch, 18 4.7-inch and 14 smaller guns.]

Civil War Veteran Dies in Boston

BOSTON, Aug. 15.—The death at Weston of General Charles Paine, well-known as an officer in the Civil War, and later as owner of three successful defenders of America's Cup is announced to-day. He was 83 years old, and great grandson of Robert Treat Paine, signer of the Declaration of Independence. In 1897 he was one of three special envoys accredited to the governments of France, Britain and Germany in the interests of international bimetalism. He headed the syndicate which built the yachts Puritan, Mayflower and Volunteers, all of which successfully defended America's cup at the international yacht races.

Danish Steamer Sunk

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The Danish steamer Ivar has been sunk by a submarine off Canca, Italy, on Sunday, according to a despatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from Copenhagen. The crew of the steamer are saved. The Ivar was 2,138 tons, built in 1907, and hailed from Copenhagen.

Austrians In Full Retreat

PETROGRAD, Aug. 14.—Austrian lines along the Stripa, which they have held since early in September, have crumbled, and Gen. Von Bothmer is in full retreat along the whole front, according to latest information received by the Russian General staff.

13 Miners Killed

LONDON, Aug. 14.—Thirteen miners were killed early this morning by an explosion in Ashington Colliery near Blyth.

French Capture German Trenches

PARIS, Aug. 15.—French troops have captured German trenches on a front of about 300 yards long and 100 yards deep north of the Chapel of Sainte, at the intersection of the Fleury and Vaux Roads. On the right bank of the Meuse in Verdun sector last night, says a War Office statement, on the Somme front, French artillery was very active at Bellefleur and Lihons; elsewhere the night was calm.

Continued Gains For Russians

PETROGRAD, Aug. 15.—Continued gains for the Russians in the Sereth River region along the Zlota Lipa where the troops have crossed at several points on the western bank, and the capture of the Village of Tustobaby, northeast of the Dniester is chronicled in an official statement issued this evening.

British Destroyer Sunk off Holland

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The British torpedo boat destroyer Lasso was sunk Sunday off the Dutch coast having struck a mine or been torpedoed, according to an official statement issued this afternoon. Six of the crew of the destroyer are missing. Two men on board were injured. Available shipping records do not contain the destroyer Lasso.

South of the Somme

PARIS, Aug. 15.—There were vigorous artillery duels south of the Somme and on the right bank of the Meuse to-day, according to a French official issued this evening. A German aeroplane dropped bombs on Rheims, while German batteries shelled various quarters of that city, destroying the civil hospital and killing 6 persons, the statement adds.

Along the Isonzo

ROME, Aug. 14.—Although public attention is centered in the fighting along the lower Isonzo, important encounters are in progress elsewhere along the front. The Italians are meeting with fierce resistance, and in several sectors the Austrians are launching heavy attacks, presumably in an attempt to divert the efforts of the Italians from the Monfalcone and Gorizia positions. In the vicinity of Tolmino, north of Gorizia, fighting is particularly severe. According to reports reaching Rome, the number of Austrians dead or wounded is said to be very large. The Italians also have taken prisoners in this area.

EX-PREMIER DEAD

LONDON, Aug. 14.—Right Hon. Sir George Turner, former Premier and Treasurer of Victoria, died suddenly yesterday at Melbourne.

Austria Calls For More Recruits

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—A Berne, Switzerland, despatch to the Journal says—That Austro-Hungarian armies are seriously crippled by the losses on the Russian and Italian fronts is evidenced by Vienna despatches which announced to-day that the Hungarian Landsturm forces for all years from 1885 to 1897 inclusive have been ordered to report for active service on August 28. This call will furnish reinforcements of 275,000 men.

Russian Steamer Sunk

LONDON, Aug. 14.—The Russian steamship Kovda, 1,255 tons, has been sunk.

A Failure Is Frequently the Success or of Success

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Japanese Garrison Attacked

Japanese Garrison at Chongchiatun is Attacked by Chinese Troops—Reinforcements are Being Rushed From Nearby Stations—Arrest of Japanese Merchant Was Cause of the Trouble

TOKIO, Aug. 15.—Chinese troops attacked the Japanese garrison at Chongchiatun between Mukden and Choyangfu and have killed or wounded 17 Japanese soldiers and killed one officer. According to official advices from Chongchiatun the Japanese barracks there is now besieged by Chinese soldiers. Reinforcements are being rushed to the beleaguered garrison from Japanese forces stationed at Kaiyuna and Kalyuna and Sodignai. The fighting resulted from the arrest of a Japanese merchant.

OFFICIAL BRITISH

LONDON, Aug. 14.—On the Somme front we progressed further, the enemy losing heavily in counter attacks. On Saturday the French captured the enemy's third position between Hardecourt and the Somme, taking a thousand prisoners. At Verdun the enemy succeeded in retaking Thiaumont work. Elsewhere they were repulsed with great loss. The Italians in a highly successful offensive captured Gorizia and continue to advance eastward and on the Carso plateau. They captured sixteen thousand prisoners. Pressure on the Galician front continues. Temmazz and Stanislau have been occupied with the result that Bothmer's army has begun to retreat. Since the beginning of August 85,000 prisoners and sixty-eight guns have been captured. Eight persons were killed in the zeppelin raid in the north-eastern counties last week. No military damage. The British destroyer Lasso was sunk by a mine or torpedo off the Dutch coast. Six lives were lost. BONAR LAW.

OFFICIAL FRENCH

PARIS, Aug. 14.—French troops captured some trenches on the left of the Fay-Dentecourt road in the Somme sector last night, says a War Office announcement to-day. There brisk cannonading in the region of Maurepas. German attacks in the vicinity of Hill 304 and at Fleury in Verdun sector, were repulsed.

OFFICIAL ITALIAN

ROME, Aug. 14.—Italian troops continued yesterday pressing the Austrians back on the Carso plateau and east of Hill 212. They pierced another strong line of hostile entrenchments and about 800 prisoners were captured, says to-day's official statement.

Lloyd's and The Ending Of the War

LLOYD'S QUOTATIONS OF WAR ENDING DEC. 31 ARE 9 TO 10 AND 4 1/2 TO 10 IS QUOTED FOR WAR ENDING MARCH OR JUNE OF NEXT YEAR

LONDON, Aug. 15.—Despite the prominence given in belligerent as well as in neutral countries to economic problems after the war, and the rapid growth of plans by commercial and banking institutions preparing to meet such problems, Lloyd's bankers are not reducing quotations on the ending of war in the near future. Ninety percent (9 to 10) was quoted to-day on possibility of its ending by December 31, which was held to be a prohibitive rate, and the possibility of its ending by March or June of next year was quoted at 45 per cent (4 1/2 to 10).

Church Wrecked By Hostile Raid

Church of Saint Marie, Formosa, is Destroyed by Austrian Air Raid on Night of August 10.

BERLIN, Aug. 15.—Up to August 11th, Austro-Hungarian aeroplane squadrons bombed intensively arsenal, railroad station and outer works of the outer forts of Venice, says an official statement issued from Vienna. Good successes were obtained despite the thunderstorms and rain. A despatch from Rome under date of August 12th said the historic Church of Saint Marie Formosa, in Venice, had been destroyed during an Austrian raid over the city on the night of August 10.

THE NEW ENGLAND

England is now at last a potent aid to her neighbor in the effort to redeem her soil. Through doubts and difficulties she has become aflame with the spirit that wins because it will not fail. The sordid ideals to which commercialism had seemed to bind her have vanished in the smoke of battle. There is a new solidarity of classes, a new union of national aspirations. The loyalty of her colonies has established her Empire more firmly than ever. And in the largeness of her generosity to those with whom she is fighting she has found her own salvation from a merely selfish pride of place.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Austrian Retreat Continues

Von Bothmer's Forces Take up New Positions on West Bank of Zlota River—Over 83,200 Men and 1720 Officers Are Taken by Russians During Last Week

PETROGRAD, Aug. 15.—The retreat of the Austrians from the Stripa continues with Russians pounding the Austrian rear guard. Podgocin, on the Koropice, has fallen and General Count von Bothmer's forces are taking up positions on west bank of the Zlota River. The surrender of Mirjampol by the Austrians has enabled Gen. Letchitzky to straighten the front of his advance toward Halicz. This is now forming an almost direct line east and west, only seven miles from that town. Prisoners and booty taken by the Russians during last week's operations are estimated at 83,200 men and 1,720 officers captured, sixty-nine guns, 342 machine guns, and bomb throwers were taken by Genls. Letchitzky, Scherbatschoff and Skharoff.

German Gains Near Pozieres

LONDON, Aug. 14.—Attacking British positions near Pozieres on the Somme and on the right bank of the Meuse to-day, according to a French official issued this evening. A German aeroplane dropped bombs on Rheims, while German batteries shelled various quarters of that city, destroying the civil hospital and killing 6 persons, the statement adds.

Russian Sweep Continues Unchecked

PETROGRAD, Aug. 14.—Along the Galician front the Russian sweep continues unchecked. An official announcement of today reports that further gains have been made on the Upper Sereth, Stripa and the Koropice. The Austrians are being pursued by the Russians, who have reached the northern bank of the Dniester before Marianopol.

WISER TO LOOK FORWARD TO SLOW AND STEADY MOVEMENT

"We must remember," says the London Telegraph, "in studying the news which comes from the front, that we are but at the opening stage of a long and serious effort, and that we can only expect the results to be gradually unfolded before our eyes. It is a wholly natural impatience that desires to be fed with brilliant exploits; but it is wiser to look forward to a slow and steady movement, not only designed to relieve the pressure on Verdun, but to carry out a systematic and deliberate assault on the whole German position in this quarter."

THE LIMIT.

"We girls had hardships when we camped out. Only one drinking glass among five girls." "And only one mirror." "Good Night."

Gave Him A Pointer.

"I'd like to see Mr. Jones, said the lady caller." "Mr. Jones is engaged ma'am," said the office boy. "Engaged, fiddlesticks!" exclaimed the lady. "He's married and I'm his wife."

Turks Retreat

PETROGRAD, Aug. 15.—Reports of the continuation of the Turkish offensive on the Persian frontier but asserts the retreat of the Turks has been forced on the south west bank of Lake Van in Turkish Armenia through the fire of the Russian flotilla on the lake. The Turkish war office says Russians in Persia continue to be driven back by the Ottoman troops and that in Armenia near Bitlis the Turks have made a further advance.

The Danish West Indies

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 15.—The Folkething or Lower House in the Danish parliament to-day voted in favor of selling the Danish West Indies to the United States if a plebiscite favored it. The vote stood 62 for the proposition and 44 against it, one member being denied a vote, and six being absent.

More Shipping Sunk

LONDON, Aug. 14.—Lloyds announces the sinking of the Italian steamer Nereus, Italian sailing vessel Dina, and French sailing vessel Saint Gaetan.

Rise in Wheat Is the Result of Conspiracy

Was Engineered in America by German-Americans to Embarrass the Entente Allies—Coterie of English Speculators also Have a Hand in the Game so "Statist" Says

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The Daily Telegraph to-day says the opinion is freely expressed in the local wheat market, that the rise in wheat prices was the result of a conspiracy on the part of Germans and Americans in Chicago to force prices up and embarrass the Entente Allies. The rise of wheat is condemned here as unnecessary, says the Daily Telegraph, and the whole business seems to have been engineered in America. The statist, says a coterie of English speculators, have made the situation worse by engineering a local corner on the British wheat market. The newspaper, however, expresses the hope that wheat supplies now enroute here will reach Britain in time to bring to naught the machinations of some English gamblers.

Concentrated Sights.

"He says he has travelled thousands of miles!" "Ah, he must have seen a great deal." "Yes, many things, he's been floor-walker in a department store for 27 years."

Please Remit.

Messenger Bay (handing a telegram from his wife at the shore). "Any answer, sir?" "Brown (without opening it)—Yes just say "busted."

Russians Advancing In Galicia

Russians Capture Strongly Fortified Town of Tustobaby Northwest of the Dniester—Bad Weather Hinders Operations on British and French Fronts—Further Gains For Italians Are Announced

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The Austrians and Germans in Galicia are still falling back before the advance of the Russians, who, according to Petrograd, have captured the strongly fortified town of Tustobaby northwest of the Dniester on the Upper Sereth. However, the Teutonic Allies at some points there, on newly chosen lines, are holding back the Russians with a vigorous artillery fire. Berlin says, south of Brody, on the Lub-Grabarka sector, the Russian attacks were put down with heavy losses, and that the Russians who had penetrated the Teutonic positions on Zboroff Kenjucy line northeast of Tarnopol were later driven out and 300 of them made prisoners. According to Vienna, the Russian attack southwest of Podkamien, near Brody, ended with the field before the Austro-German positions being covered with Russian dead. No change took place Monday along either the British or French lines in France. Bad weather is hindering operations, which were confined to most exclusively to artillery duels. According to Berlin the British have been expelled from trenches over a front of 700 yards southwest of Marianopol in Pozieres sector, which they occupied on Sunday. On the Isonzo front, according to Rome, the Italians have made still further advances against the Austrians along the Cairo plateau east of Hill 212. In the latter sector another line of trenches having been penetrated and more men made prisoners. In Gorizia sector, Rome says, Austrian gains are being busily employed against the Italians. Here, according to Vienna, seven charges by the Italians were put down by the Austrians.

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