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Terrible Punishment If Hun Fleet Had Come Out In 1918

British Position Then Assured But Not Earlier

ADMIRAL JELLICOE'S BOOK

Grand Fleet Exposed to Dangers When Short of Cruisers and Destroyers — He Wonders Why Germans Were so Cautious During Early Days of War

London, Feb. 12—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—Lord Jellicoe's book on the grand fleet, published today, dwells on the dangers to which the fleet was exposed when it was short of cruisers and destroyers, and with bases defenceless owing to submarines, mines and torpedoes. He points out that the German high sea fleet possessed eighty-eight destroyers compared with the grand fleet's forty-five. It is revealed that, owing to the submarine menace, the grand fleet moved to Lough Swilly and returned to the North Sea only when the Scapa flow anchorage was rendered reasonably safe.

Lord Jellicoe says that neither in 1914 nor 1916 did the British margin of superiority justify him in disregarding the enemy's torpedo fire. The position gradually improved after 1916, especially as light cruisers and destroyer forces with the grand fleet increased steadily after the battle of Jutland, considerably reducing the danger of successful torpedo attack, while the inclusion of the K class of submarines made it probable that the enemy suffered more severely from submarine attack than the British. K in 1918.

Regarding 1918, Lord Jellicoe says:—"The position was assured, and we could have afforded to take risks which in 1916 would have been most unwise. If the German fleet had come out to battle a terrible punishment awaited it."

One-third of the book is devoted to the battle of Jutland. Summing up the lessons of this fight Lord Jellicoe dwells on "The danger involved in leaving too much to chance in a fleet action, because our fleet was the one and only factor vital to the existence of the empire, and indeed, to the Allied cause. We had no reserve outside our battle fleet, which could in any way replace it in the event of disaster or even should its margin of superiority be eliminated."

Moreover, Lord Jellicoe says, he knew his ships were inadequately protected with armor compared with the battle cruiser type of ship, while the German fleet at Jutland was far better off in destroyers, in addition to their possessing the most efficient armor-piercing shell. When the battle fleets approached there was a difference in reckoning between the British battle fleet and the battle cruiser squadron, due to the latter being engaged several hours on a repeated-altering course. Hence, instead of the enemy being encountered right ahead they appeared on the starboard bow. Instant action was necessary, and Lord Jellicoe decided to deploy on the port wing, the division thus compelling the Germans to turn off to starboard to avoid being crossed. The masterly manoeuvre, as the reviewer describes it, threw the enemy into complete confusion.

The German admiralissimo realized that his only hope lay in escape, profiting by his superiority in torpedo craft, low visibility, the approach of darkness and the proximity of his bases and mine fields. The enemy at this point fired hundreds of torpedoes, as German officials have since stated, and, though the Germans were in the gravest peril, the action of the grand fleet itself, menaced by determined torpedo attacks in thick weather, was not enviable. But the British fleet, by four times turning in the line during the action, cleared the torpedoes which were racing towards the British ships, and defeated the tactics on which the Germans had based their hopes.

Lord Jellicoe pays a tribute to the skill of his captains in handling their ships, thus avoiding torpedoes and collisions, while keeping their stations. He explains why he did not seek a night action and explains that the Germans had more powerful searchlights.

The superiority in destroyers and the greater number of torpedo tubes fitted on their ships gave the Germans an opportunity of scoring heavily at the outset of the action in which the result must always be a matter of chance.

Looking to Future.

The admiral, after careful estimates of the relative strengths of the two fleets early in the war, expresses surprise that the enemy was so cautious. He says: "If this country in future decides to rely for safety against raids or invasion on its fleet alone it is essential that we possess a considerably greater margin of superiority over any possible enemy in all classes of vessels than we had in August, 1914."

PORT ENEMY ALIENS; LET NO MORE IN.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 12—A resolution moved by G. S. Hanes of North Vancouver, that all enemy aliens in Canada be deported, and that their entrance in future be debarred, with an amendment moved by Hon. W. Sloan, minister of mines, that the entire matter be referred to the peace conference, was unanimously passed yesterday in the legislature.

EX-KAISER IS IN TOUCH WITH HIS FORMER SUPPORTERS

Officials Call on Him at Refuge In Amerongen.

TOASTED BY OFFICERS

Germans Interned in Switzerland Try to Send Him Telegram so Insulting to Allies That Telegraph Office Refuses to Accept It

Amerongen, Holland, Feb. 12—(By the Associated Press)—There have been various indications that Count Hohenzollern, former German emperor, is maintaining communication with his former supporters.

Two secretaries of the German legation at The Hague, Koester and Schleibach, recently visited the castle at Amerongen and stayed over night, having a long conference with the count and Hans Von Gontard, the sole remaining high functionary of the old imperial court, who remains faithful to the former emperor. On last Friday night Baroness Von Rosen, English wife of the German minister to Holland, arrived and she was still at the castle next day.

The object of these meetings cannot be ascertained, as everything is kept secret under the influence of Herr Von Gontard, who declines to permit of any of his powers to be taken from his hands.

Berne, Feb. 12—German officers interned in Switzerland celebrated the birthday of the former emperor at Lucerne, all of them drinking to his health, his early return to Germany and restoration to his former power. Then they drafted a telegram to Amerongen, which is said to have been so insulting to the Entente nations that the telegraph office refused to accept it.

NO INVASION OF RUSSIA TO WIPE OUT BOLSHEVIKI

London, Feb. 11—Lord Curzon, president of the council, said today in the House of Lords that none of the Allies are prepared to invade Russia to extirpate the Bolshevik.

"It would have meant a new European war," he said, adding that as an alternative, the Prinkipo conference was proposed.

FOR POSTAL UNION FOR ALL CANADA

Saskatoon, Sask., Feb. 12—The western postal employes' union in convention here yesterday decided to change the name of the organization to the Amalgamated Postal Workers, and will try to unite in one body all the postal employes in the dominion.

ALFONSO TO VISIT SOUTH AMERICA

Paris, Feb. 12—King Alfonso of Spain has definitely decided to visit South America, according to the Gaulois.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service

Synopsis—The weather is comparatively mild in Ontario and the western provinces and cold from the Ottawa Valley eastward. A pronounced disturbance has developed in the western states, and it is not unlikely to move towards the great lakes.

Fair and Milder.

Maritime—Strong northwest winds, fair and colder; Thursday, fair and somewhat milder.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Fair and moderately cold today and on Thursday.

New England—Cloudy and warmer tonight and Thursday; probably local snows; gentle to moderate shifting winds.

HISTORIC COURT HOUSE GUTTED; ALREADY TALK OF GROUPING CITY OFFICES IN NEW STRUCTUCE

Morning Fire Leaves Little But Walls of Building

BUILT NEARLY CENTURY AGO

Original Cost Was About $45,000—Fire, Water and Smoke Do Deadly Work—Interesting Matters Recalled In Life of Noted Building

St. John's historic County Court House, a landmark to this and preceding generations for nearly a century, fell a prey to flames this morning and now stands a wreck as to interior fittings though solidly intact structurally. The blaze originated roundabout the furnace on the ground floor and the firemen had there was a widespread fire throughout the building when they got to the scene. From half past six o'clock when box two was pulled until noon when the "all out" blow sounded Chief Blake's men worked steadily and succeeded in keeping the fire from seriously impairing the stone shell of the large building.

When the firemen first reached the court house a second alarm was immediately sounded so that a quick and concentrated effort could be made to swamp the blaze which was ugly from the outset. This second alarm made a general shuffle of fire apparatus about town while the nearer departments answered the summons to King Square. Fighting the blaze was largely a matter for the hose companies, although the laddermen and axe workers had important and risky work to do.

The council chamber, coroner's court room and other appartments off the vestibule floor were completely destroyed with the fire direct while the upper chambers such as the sheriff's offices, corridors, large county court room and judge's rooms as well as the jury rooms on the third floor were partially burnt, completely smoked up and damaged fully seventy-five per cent with water. The fire succeeded in penetrating the metallic roof and worked through the eaves and cornices.

Such a volume of water from a dozen stretches of hose poured into the building and then streamed back in a miniature Niagara that the stone flooring of the familiar vestibule and the winding stone staircase were ankle-deep all the time, flooding out onto the sidewalk like a river. Even some of the crevices between foundation stones spurted water, so great was the pressure of the accumulated flood.

The fire gained headway rapidly after being first seen by Caretaker Fitzmaurice. He gave the alarm from the box next door on No. 2 Station but the pine woodwork of the interior and the highly varnished decorative work, aided by the vaulty character of the rooms made all attempts to save the place futile. As before stated it was merely a matter of pouring on water.

The court house is in total collapse inside, as viewed this afternoon when the smoke had cleared away. The floors are burned through, daylight can be seen through the roof and the various apartments are a jumble of charred timbers and straggling plaster. Nothing but the shell of the structure remains.

A Suggestion

Competent builders say that it would be hardly worth while to reconstruct the court house on the old lines, which, though dignified and substantial were not practicable to present-day conditions and needs. Its superior freestone could be utilized in a new building but apart from that it is declared quite out of date. Prominent citizens by the score expressed the opinion this forenoon that St. John now had an opportunity to erect its long-mooted modern civic-centre building, merging under one roof the city's various official offices, police and assembling places, registry offices, and at the same time embodying a civic auditorium and reception hall to be used for special state occasions and for the convenience of the public on a rental basis. Such facilities have been needed for a long time and the city's welfare has undoubtedly suffered because of this lack. With the absorption of No. 2's old-fashioned fire hall and the cutting away of the rock at the rear of the present court house and the demolition of the registry offices and morgue, plenty of space would be afforded for this suggested comprehensive civic plant. Some thought the building might be erected as a memorial to soldiers.

Sheriff A. A. Wilson, who was on the scene as early as seven o'clock says that he saved all the papers and valuable accessories belonging to his tenure of office but he is afraid that many papers belonging to prior incumbencies which were stored in one of the upper stowaway rooms went with the floors and are either consumed or completely messed up. The ballot boxes used in elections were in this upper storage place too as well as other civic voting paraphernalia. Doubtless St. John will have now have to have a new outfit.

For the time being the sheriff's office is in the registry building, King street east, where Mr. Wilson is getting things sorted out and straightened up as best he can.

(Continued on page 2, fifth column)

STEAMER SEIZED

Action Against The D. J. Purdy Follows River Collision

The river steamer D. J. Purdy, owned by the Crystal Stream Steamship Company, was seized yesterday by Sheriff A. A. Wilson and will be held until a suit for $4,000, which has been brought against the steamer by the owners of the Steamer Premier, has been thrashed out in the admiralty court.

It will be recalled that the steamers D. J. Purdy and Premier were in collision near the bend in Long Island early last fall and the latter steamer damaged. She was later floated and brought to the city and repaired, and resumed her sailings to Grand Lake. As a result of this collision the owners of the Premier—Messrs. David Coy, Captain C. McLean and Harry Titus—have brought action for the specified sum.

The steamer D. J. Purdy is at present tied up at her winter quarters at the foot of Indiantown. None of the steamers have as yet commenced activities for the opening of navigation.

THE RECORD OF C.P.R. MEN IN WAR

Of 9,629 Who Went Into Uniform, 842 Gave Lives and 1,844 Were Wounded

Statistics giving details of the part taken in the great European war by employes of the Canadian Pacific railway system, reached headquarters today and the officials are justly proud of the record. The figures show that 9,629 employes of the C. P. R. joined the Canadian Expeditionary forces. Out of that number 842 are recorded as dead and 1,844 as having been wounded. To date 1,108 have been re-employed in the service, and in addition 1,557 returned soldiers not previously in the employ of the C. P. R. have been placed in various positions, making a grand total of 2,665 returned men now in the service.

Out of this number of soldiers one was decorated with the Order of St. Michael and St. George, two with the D. S. O., thirty-three with military crosses, sixty-seven with military medals, seven with bars to their military medals, three with meritorious service medals, one with a bronze medal, one with a Medal of Saint George and three with the Croix de Guerre.

POLICE COURT

James Walton, formerly of Milford, a longshoreman at West St. John, was in the police court this morning, charged with stealing a tennis ball from the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services.

Yesterday afternoon it was found that a tennis ball was missing from a case. Constable E. J. Antell made a search. On approaching the accused he said he asked him if he had seen the missing article. He told him he had not, but while talking he put his hand in his pocket and pulled something out and threw it into the water, and when asked what it was said it was an apple. The constable got a boat and recovered the supposed apple and found it to be the missing article. He put the man under arrest and brought him to the police station.

Magistrate Ritchie gave the accused a talking to, and on learning that his former character was good, let him go on a suspended sentence.

PAVING POLICY CONSIDERED.

The mayor and city commissioners met this morning in the mayor's office for an informal discussion of matter relating to the street paving programme for the coming year and the policy to be adopted by the council with regard to the payment for permanent pavements.

HOME DEPT. AT HOME.

The annual at home of the home department of St. Andrew's church was held last evening in the school room. About 150 members were present. A musical programme was given, including songs by Miss Louise Anderson, Mrs. Lelacheur, and Thomas Guy, with selections by Stratton's orchestra. The report of the department was presented by the secretary, Mrs. Shaw. Refreshments were served.

ON WAY TO ENGLAND

Lieut. Frank Smith of West St. John, who gave his eye sight in the war for liberty and right, will leave tonight from New York, there to join Sir Arthur Pearson, with whom he will sail on the S. S. Baltic for England. Lieut. Smith is to take a vocational training course in St. Dunstan's famous school for blind soldiers, founded by Sir Arthur Pearson.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Roy A. Davidson, Danish vice-consul for this port, has received an inquiry regarding the whereabouts of Novn Johnsen, a native of Denmark, who is believed to be located here. Relatives in Denmark are seeking his address.

FOR POOLING THE NATIONS' DEBTS

Initial Steps Taken to Commit Peace Conference

AMERICAN OPPOSITION

Delegates From United States Taking Firm Stand in Matter—Think Countries Should Have Taxed Their People More During War

Paris, Feb. 12—(By the Associated Press)—Already initial steps have been taken to commit the peace conference on the adoption of a great international pooling system of debts, which shall include all neutral nations, whether they wish to or not. This will meet with the most determined resistance from the American delegates, who feel that America did her full share in aiding the Allies by furnishing troops and almost unlimited supplies of money and material. They are understood to be quite willing to rid France of the nightmare of German power in extending further credits to permit France to rehabilitate her industries and enable her and Belgium as well, to hold her own in the world's markets, but they thoroughly appreciate the fact that it is beyond their power to commit their country to participation in any monetary credit system with European powers.

They also feel that some of these countries have been derelict in not imposing, as Great Britain and the United States did, additional taxes upon their own people during the war to meet, at least in part, their obligations, instead of calculating upon reimbursement from indemnities to be collected from the enemy.

The revival of the spirit of the old Paris economic conference, which planned boycotts and after the war discriminations, is sometimes in evidence during discussions. It made its appearance in the desire of one country to impose discriminatory duties on enemy commerce during the consideration of the plan to make all international waterways open for all nations on even terms. This was regarded as a violation of one of the "fourteen points," but the commission dealing with the subject is having difficulty in passing this point. However, the general acceptance of the principle of international control over such waterways to the extent at least of prescribing rules which shall govern navigation and defining the riparian rights of abutting nations is said to have paved the way for ultimate agreement in the commission upon a report which will probably be received with approval by the peace conference or its legatee, the society of nations.

POSITION FOR 26TH MAN

Ottawa, Feb. 11—C. W. Cavers, who went overseas as assistant adjutant of the 104th Battalion, New Brunswick, has been appointed director of information of the soldier settlement board, department of the interior.

Charles Walker Caver was with the 26th Battalion in France, and was employed while in England as officer in charge of records in the New Brunswick Regimental Depot at Bramshot. His occupation in civil life was that of editor of a newspaper.

FREDERICTON NEWS

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 9—The Mount Allison basket ball team will play U. N. B. here in the intercollegiate series on February 21.

A feature of the mid-week country market today was a drop in the price of veal. Beef and veal appear to be plentiful in the country.

Mrs. Elsie M. Parent, wife of H. Roy Parent, died in Douglas yesterday at the age of thirty. She is survived by her husband and by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Sparks, eight brothers and six sisters, all of Green Hill, York county.

Mrs. Marshall Goodine died last night at her home in this city. She is survived by her husband, two sons, James and Archie; three brothers, Henry, Lemuel and Blanchard, and two sisters, Sarah of Durham and Mrs. Sandwich of Campbellton.

RAMORE HEAD TO RESCUE OF STEAMER

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 12—A wireless message states that S. S. Ramore Head, which sailed from St. John for England recently, is expected to reach the position given by the distressed U. S. oil tank steamer J. M. Guffey, at about two o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

National French Congress

Paris, Feb. 12—(Havas Agency)—Delegates representing ninety-six associations having a membership of ten millions, have met here to organize a national French congress. The congress will sit from Feb. 27 to March 1, to draft French claims to be presented to the peace conference.

Premier Attacked By Lord Northcliffe

FORMER SADDLER NOW IS HEAD OF GERMAN STATE

Church Bells Announce Election of Ebert as President

SOME DENUNCIATIONS

National Assembly Criticizes Armistice Conditions and the Blockade — A Victory for Open Diplomacy

Weimer, Feb. 12—(By the Associated Press)—Pealing church bells announced to the people of Weimer yesterday afternoon that the German folk, for the first time in history, had chosen the head of their own state.

Friedrich Ebert, former saddler and Socialist leader, appeared before the theatre twenty minutes later and received as president of Germany those plaudits formerly marking the appearance of the monarch who once stigmatized the party to which President Ebert belongs as being made up of men "unworthy to bear the name of German."

The National Asesmbly adjourned until Thursday. Today will be spent in preparing a programme and definitely constitution a new cabinet. Yesterday's meeting was opened as usual with the reading of telegrams from all parts of Germany and Austria, each of which brought cheers. The joining of Germany and Austria, when mentioned, received shouts of acquiescence, while the armistice conditions and the blockade were denounced.

Open Diplomacy.

Weimar, Febf 11—(By the Asosciated Press)—The National Assembly unanimously adopted a provisional constitution last evening after a three hour wrangle between the independent Socialists, on one hand, and all the rest of the house on the other, over one single point—the question of secret agreements.

The contentious paragraph—a part of the sixth clause of the constitution, reads as originally conceived and now accepted:—

"As soon as the German Empire is represented in the league of nations, with the aim to exclude secret agreements all agreements with the nations allied in the league must have the acquiescence of the national assembly and the state commission."

The state commission corresponds to the federal council, or second chamber.

Copenhagen, Feb. 11—According to a despatch from Weimar, an agreement has been reached by the German national asesmbly on the composition of the new ministry, which will consist of fourteen members. Philippe Scheidemann has been selected chancellor; Dr. August Mueller, minister of economies; Herr Baver, minister of labor, and Herr Landsberg, minister of national defence and justice. Another portfolio will go to Dr. Edward David, who resigns the presidency of the National Assembly at Weimar, which position will be taken over by Konstantin Fehrenbach.

BORDEN AS BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES?

London, Feb. 12—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—The Daily Express says that Sir Robert Borden, prime minister of Canada, has been offered the post of British ambassador to the United States.

London, Feb. 12—(Canadian Associated Press)—Inquiring at 10 Downing street today regarding the Daily Express report that Sir Robert Borden had been offered the American ambassadorship, a representative of the Canadian Associated Press was told:

"We know nothing whatever about it. It does not sound very probable, but we should not like definitely to deny it. We have heard absolutely nothing."

The correspondent adds that while the report may seem surprising there is not the least doubt that several prominent statesmen are firmly convinced and have privately expressed the conviction that Canada is bound to bear a predominating influence in promoting the Anglo-Saxon Entente.

Sir George Perley, Canadian high commissioner, also said that he had no information, nor have the officials of the colonial office.

Says Lloyd George Is A Political Chameleon

"LACKING IN FORCE"

Accuses Him of Waiting for Newspapers to Tell Him What to do — Labor Party Prepares Amendment to Reply to Speech from Throne—Crisis Today

London, Feb. 12—(By the Associated Press)—While the press generally approves Premier Lloyd George's labor programme, it fails to satisfy the parliamentary labor party, which has prepared an amendment to the reply to the speech from the throne, regretting the absence of definite proposals dealing with "the present cases of industrial unrest and for securing, as regards wages and working hours, conditions of labor which will establish a higher standard of life and social well being for the people." Lloyd George's proposals are also adversely criticized by the radical section of the press, which regards them as vague and unlikely to be carried out by what is alleged to be a "reactionary parliament."

Crisis Today

The labor situation reaches a crisis today in conferences between the government and three great unions, representing nearly 1,500,000 workers, the result of whose demands is awaited with keen interest by the entire labor world.

The unions are the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, National Union of Railwaymen and the National Transport Workers' Federation. The unions are acting together, and it is believed they have agreed on joint action if dissatisfied with the result of the conferences.

The railwaymen's demands include a forty-eight hour week and control of railways by representatives of the managements and workers. This latter clause is considered a step toward nationalization, but an alternative has been prepared in the form of a commission of labor delegates and boards of directors.

The miners want a six hour day and a thirty per cent. increase in wages, while the transport workers demand a forty-four hour week and a wage advance of twenty per cent.

Attack by Northcliffe

While the Northcliffe newspapers generally approve of the Lloyd George programme, the premier is openly attacked by Viscount Northcliffe in a new weekly published today. The attack is in an article sent to the publishers by cable by Viscount Northcliffe, who is in Southern France. Lloyd George is said to be a "political chameleon," who lacks force to compel the tories and their allies in parliament to accept needed reforms. The premier is accused of waiting for the newspapers to tell him what to do.

In parliament yesterday Premier Lloyd George said that the government would agree to any kind of investigation into the cause of the unrest.

Referring to "demands put forward not to obtain fair conditions, but to overthrow the existing order, to destroy the government," the premier declared:

"I say in all solemnity on behalf of the government that we are determined to fight Prussianism in the industrial world exactly as we fought it on the continent of Europe.

"If all classes of the community are prepared to make the necessary sacrifices for the stability, purity and freedom of industry, I am prepared to say, with full knowledge of the consequences, that no section of the community, however powerful, shall be allowed to hold up the whole nation."

The premier concluded with an appeal that the victory, won by battles should not be wantonly dissipated in a few weeks' frenzied strife.

SIR ROBERT DOES NOT GIVE HALIFAX ANY CONSIDERATION

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 12—Mayor Hawkins, who, on behalf of the city, protested to Sir Robert Borden against the withdrawal of big steamers such as the Olympic and Aquitania from the service of transporting Canadian troops home from England, has been advised by the premier's secretary at Ottawa that he has received the following cable message from Sir Robert:

'Am advised that transportation of Canadian troops by smaller ships insures greater dispatch in entraining troops for dispersal centres and prevents congestion and confusion. The action alluded to was based on this consideration."

CANADIAN KNOCKED OUT BY EDDIE McGOORTY

New York, Feb. 12—A London despatch to the Herald dated Tuesday says: Eddie McGoorty knocked out Harold Rolf, the heavyweight champion of the Canadian forces, in the eighth round of a scheduled fifteen round contest at the National Sporting Club last night.

THIRD DIVISION ALL IN ENGLAND THIS WEEK

London, Feb. 12—(Canadian Associated Press)—The third Canadian division will be completely in England this week, and the first units will embark for Canada at the beginning of March. Bramshott Camp will be cleared of other troops, which will be moved to Ripon, in Yorkshire.

All the men of the third division arriving in England will receive eight days' leave. Witley Camp is being reserved for other divisions from France.

Ottawa, Feb. 12—The policy to be carried out in the demobilization of the medical services of the Canadian expeditionary forces overseas is outlined in a cable transmitted yesterday by the department of militia to the director of public information here. It states that medical units will accompany the divisions of the C. E. F., to which they are attached, in conformity with the general policy of demobilization. In addition to the regular divisional medical unit each division will be accompanied by one general hospital, one stationary hospital and one casualty clearing station.