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MORE THAN TWO MILLION GERMAN  
FACE ALLES ON THE WESTERN FRONT

Reinforcements May Bring Total to 2,340,000  
—Enemy Preparations Continue, Without  
Relaxation of Vigilance or Efforts—Formid-  
able System of Defences Have Been Erect-  
ed

Grand Headquarters of the French Army in France, Feb. 13.—(By the Associated Press)—German preparations for the announced offensive on the Allied front have not brought with them any relaxation of German vigilance or efforts to meet any possible attack from the Allies. New concentrations of German forces are gathering in the rear of their lines simultaneously with the hard work which continues in front line positions, where a most formidable system of defences has been erected during the winter months.

Various authorities make widely different estimates of the number of German divisions which may eventually be brought into the line on this front, should the Germans decide to engage in battle on a large and decisive scale. The exact total of the German forces in the front line and in the immediate reserve is known to a unit.

One hundred and twelve divisions occupy the German front line facing the British, French, American and Belgian troops, while their immediate reserves total sixty-three divisions. (On the basis of 12,000 men a German division, this would be 2,100,000 troops.) Possibly several additional divisions have reached various points behind the lines, but the fact has not been established with certainty.

At any rate, it is agreed by authorities here that the greatest possible number of the Germans could add to their forces on this side does not exceed twenty divisions, which would bring the total to 195 divisions (2,340,000 men).

BRITAIN NOT  
READY FOR CHANGE  
OF GOVERNMENT

Question of Confidence Rejected  
in Commons

WAR POLICY UPHOLD

Amendment Expressed Regret That  
Continued Military Efforts in the  
Only Immediate Task of Govern-  
ment

London, Wednesday, Feb. 13.—The government tonight successfully overcame the first obstacle threatening its existence when an amendment proposed by Richard Holt, which the ministers had made a question of confidence, was rejected in the House of Commons by the very substantial majority of 181.

The amendment expressed regret that continued military effort is to be the only immediate task of the government. It was supported mainly by the pacifists. The events show that however dissatisfied parliamentarians may be with the government's conduct of the war, the House of Commons is in no mood yet to force a change in the first instance.

It was in highly charged atmosphere that the house met today. First came the sensational announcement that Colonel Repington, military correspondent of the Morning Post, was to be prosecuted in connection with the disclosures concerning the Versailles conference. Colonel Repington has been assistant champion of Field Marshal Haig and General Robertson against alleged military endeavors to discredit or shelve these officers. An article by Colonel Repington early in the year revealed shortage of high explosives and indirectly aided in remedying that shortage. Should his trial be held in public it should prove of intense interest, but it is believed it will be held in secret.

Shafts Aimed at Premier.  
Verbal shafts were directed at Premier Lloyd George again today from various quarters of the house. Herbert Samuel, former secretary for home affairs, voiced the opinion of the government's shortcoming prevailing in a disconcerted section of the House of Commons. He suggested that the war cabinet was weary and should be aided by special counsels dealing both with war and home affairs.

Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, and Arthur J. Balfour, foreign secretary, came to the assistance of the hardly pressed premier. Bonar Law produced statistics with the view of disposing of charges against the government of failing to carry out promises with regard to the shipbuilding, food and other matters. Like the premier yesterday, he challenged the house to change the government if it no longer had confidence in its policy.

Secretary Balfour supported the premier's view concerning the speeches of Herr von Hertling, Chancellor Von Hertling and Count Czernin.

The debate in the house was closed by Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade. Contrasting the demands of President Wilson with regard to Belgium and a league of nations with the enemy's attitude on the same question, he said that Chancellor Von Hertling proposed to leave consideration of a league until peace has been concluded.

Not Britain's Attitude.  
That, he said, would not be the proper attitude for Great Britain to accept. It was no mere phrase to say that the government was giving the closest attention to the subject of a league of nations, Lord Robert added that he himself had

AT THIS TIME  
DIPLOMACY IS  
OUT OF COURT

A. J. Balfour's Speech On The  
Versailles Council  
GOVERNMENT'S VIEW

'It Was Central Powers Who  
Banged The Door'—Enemy  
Not Yet Ready To Accept  
Ideas and Views Of The Allies

London, Feb. 13.—Arthur J. Balfour, secretary of foreign affairs, speaking in the debate in the House of Commons, supported the prime minister, and contended that even President Wilson, so far as he was aware, did not profess to find definite formulated propositions in Count Czernin's speech.

It was a misunderstanding, he said, to assume that the Versailles council had to deal with diplomatic and political issues; its real business was military.

"The government's view," added Mr. Balfour, "is that the attitude of the Central Powers toward the Versailles council is entirely out of court. It was the Central Powers who banged the door and by the mouth of the chancellor and the Kaiser, proved that they are as far removed as three years ago from accepting the ideas to which President Wilson has given classical expression."

Mr. Balfour said he felt bound to say that the attitude of the Versailles council had not been a correct one, and that no attempt of peace-making on the part of the Central Powers had been made. He said that the attitude of the Central Powers toward the Versailles council was entirely out of court. It was the Central Powers who banged the door and by the mouth of the chancellor and the Kaiser, proved that they are as far removed as three years ago from accepting the ideas to which President Wilson has given classical expression.

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Canadians Carry Out  
Two Successful Raids

London, Feb. 13.—Canadian troops have carried out two successful raids in which they captured prisoners and inflicted losses on the enemy, the official statement from British headquarters in France and Belgium tonight says. In an attack this morning northeast of Passchendaele, in the Ypres sector, German troops temporarily occupied two British posts. The British later drove the Germans out in a counter-attack.

The statement added: "The successful raid southeast of Marghoulport reported this morning, carried out by the Canadians, in addition to thirteen prisoners, two machine guns were brought back to our lines. Many Germans were killed in fighting about ground and four trench mortars were destroyed. Seventeen dugouts in the enemy's front line and others in his support line, whose occupants refused to come out when summoned, were bombed."

The casualties incurred by the raiding party were slight and all were brought in. Another successful raid was carried out last night by Canadians in the neighborhood of Hill 70, north of Lens. Considerable opposition was encountered, in spite of which six prisoners and a machine gun were captured. Our casualties were slight.

Local fighting took place at dawn this morning northwest of Passchendaele, where a hostile party attacked and temporarily occupied two of our posts. The enemy subsequently was ejected by a counter-attack and both posts were regained. The enemy's artillery showed increased activity this morning south and southwest of Lens."

FORMER BRITISH  
AMBASSADOR DEAD

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice Victim Of  
Heart Failure While Visitor At  
Government House in Ottawa

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, former British ambassador to the United States, died this morning at 1 o'clock of heart failure at Government House. Lady Spring-Rice and his son and daughter were with him. The former envoy died peacefully in his sleep. When the former ambassador complained of not feeling well, shortly after midnight, Dr. Thomas Gibson was summoned but the patient expired shortly after 1 o'clock.

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice had been unwell for some time and his last public appearance as British ambassador to the United States was made at the Ottawa Canadian Club, when he delivered an inspiring address on the diplomatic side of the struggle.

Lady Spring-Rice and children are guests at Rideau Hall, coming here from Washington. Lady Spring-Rice is a cousin of the Duke of Devonshire.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Diplomatic Washington was shocked today by the news of the sudden death in Ottawa of Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, who retired after nearly five years' service as British ambassador to the United States early last month in favor of Lord Reading.

Although it had been known that Sir Cecil had desired for a long time before his retirement was announced, to be relieved of his heavy duties in charge of the embassy, no intimation was given when he left Washington that he was in ill-health. However, officials here pointed out that he had been under tremendous strain from the responsibilities devolving upon him, especially during the negotiations on the operations of the Allied blockade before the United States entered the war.

SUMMONSES RETURNABLE  
ON SATURDAY MORNING

London, Feb. 14.—It is understood that the summonses for Col. Repington, the military correspondent of the Morning Post, and H. A. G. Wynne, editor of the Post, who are to be prosecuted under the new act, for an article in the Post on Monday, are returnable in the Bow street police court on Saturday morning.

READY TO MEET WINNER

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 13.—Jess Wilford, champion heavyweight pugilist, who is here on business, announced tonight he stood ready and willing to meet, in Cheyenne, Wyoming, the winner of Jack Dempsey-Fred Fulton bout.

WANT KINDERGARTEN AS PART  
OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

American Rotary Will Send Influential Delegation Overseas—R. W. Wigmore Nominated as District Governor—Concluding Business of Conference This Morning

The District Rotary Conference, which was being held in the city, was brought to a close this morning. It was well known by all present to have been the most successful ever held in the maritime provinces.

One of the most important items of business was the recommendation of the nomination committee for a district governor of this district for the ensuing year. On their recommendation Commissioner Rupert W. Wigmore, M. P. elect, was nominated as successor to Professor MacRae, and this was unanimously accepted.

The first business taken up was the opening of the question box and dealing with matters and subjects mentioned in the questions which came in for considerable discussion was with regard to Rotarians attending a district conference and what part of the expenses they should bear. District Governor MacRae said that he felt that visitors should bear their share of the expenses. Rev. R. Leslie Pidgeon, international president, agreed with him, and said that it was the custom to charge a registration fee of \$2.

T. H. Estabrooks, president of the local club, in response, said that he felt that the local club should feel free to offer some hospitality. He said the local members had not much opportunity of entertaining the visitors and owing to the lengthy meetings the dinner last night was the only thing possible. He said they would feel uncomfortable if they could not offer some hospitality.

President Rowland of the Halifax Club said he could not speak in reply to the hospitality of the St. John Club. He said they did not want to put unnecessary expense on the local club and felt that visitors should bear a share of the expense.

"That this conference make a recommendation to the incoming district governor to suggest such registration fee on all members, as might be deemed suitable, in line with those imposed by other districts," was seconded by Charles Rogers and passed.

Another question, "What sized city is eligible for a club?" also evoked considerable discussion. President Pidgeon said that it was hard to determine. Some would be determined in the district municipalities of only 4,000. He said that it was more a question of the city than the

reference to a question if it is customary to elect vice-presidents to the office. It was generally conceded that it would be a bad precedent to establish such a custom. A draft constitution was then taken up. After considerable discussion it was decided that the district governor should be elected by the district convention and send suggestions to the district governor so that he could present them to the convention. The chairman then read a telegram received by him from Kansas City as follows:

"The district convention is the best place for the most successful conference and a hearty invitation to the clubs of the sixteenth district to attend the annual convention of the association on June 24 to 28 in Kansas City, the heart of America. President Wilson endorsed this convention, saying it is a genuine contribution to the cause we all have so much at heart. Signed, Russell F. Greiner, For International Conference."

The advisability of holding an international conference during war time was then taken up for consideration. Many of those present spoke in favor of the convention and advised all who could attend. It was pointed out that the convention would be a great benefit to the cause of club work and would be profitable to the Allied nations during the war to hold the convention.

International President Pidgeon said that if there is no meeting desired to be held on the continent of America during the year it is the Rotary convention. He said that an endeavor had been made to get Lord Roschey to come to the convention, but he will be unable to present. An endeavor, he said, is being made to get one who will be able to speak for England officially. He said it would be a great meeting of the allied nations and that some of the greatest in Canada and the United States would be present. The following resolutions were then passed:

"That in the judgment of this District Conference it is not only desirable, but imperative, in patriotic no less than in Rotary interests, that the International Convention be carried out as usual in the present year."

The following resolution was then moved by Mr. Gass of Halifax, seconded by T. H. Estabrooks of this city: "Having unmistakable evidence that inter-visitation of Rotary clubs in other districts is being productive of great good in strengthening and developing such clubs as have participated in this practice, and in the upbuilding of the interests of the individual members in the aims and objects of Rotary, and further the working out of such principles in the lives of the individual members of the club;

Therefore, be it resolved, that this conference of the Rotary Clubs of District No. 16 heartily approve of such inter-club visitation and strongly recommend to the clubs within their district this feature of club activities, and thus contributing in a real way to the larger field of service."

Other resolutions, submitted through Chairman Stewart of the resolutions committee were as follows: (Continued on page 2, sixth column)

NO QUORUM  
The meeting of the common council this evening as there was not a quorum.

Ice Jam Caused Flood.  
Montreal, Feb. 14.—As a result of an ice jam at Beauchemin's mill yesterday some slight damage was caused by floods in the town of Vaudreuil. The Perce and Ste. Anne de Belleue. The water around Vaudreuil rose seven or eight feet. Today the water receded.

Stockholm, Feb. 14.—Russian shelling are reported to be committing shocking acts of terrorism on the Aland Islands. In consequence of a statement that Swedish residents have fled to outlying islands, a Swedish ice-breaker will start immediately for the islands. It will be followed by rescue expeditions.

Montreal Boxer Found Dead.  
Montreal, Feb. 13.—Charles McCann, a former local boxer, aged about forty years, was found dead tonight in a room off the bar of the Strathcona Hotel, corner of St. Lawrence and Ontario streets.

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