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WEATHER—FAIR.

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## GOV. HAS 21, OPPOSITION 23; FOSTER AND CARTER BEATEN; BRITISH VICTORY IN FRANCE

### ALL EYES ARE ON GLOUCESTER TODAY

If Four Government Candidates Win There Administration Will Have 25 Seats and Opposition 23—Results of Voting Great Surprise to Both Parties.

Opposition Leader Foster, E. S. Carter, Hon. Dr. Landry, Hon. Mr. Slipp and Hon. Mr. Culligan Defeated—Result in Queens May Elect Hon. Mr. Slipp.

Complete returns from the polling in sixteen electoral constituencies in New Brunswick on Saturday give the government twenty-one seats and the opposition a total of twenty-three. The polling in Gloucester county today will prove the determining factor as to which party will conduct the affairs of the province during the next four years.

While early returns on Saturday evening indicated that the government would have a comfortable majority, the later reports of the polling told of heavy successes for the opposition, and up till 11 o'clock on Saturday evening the result seemed a tie. A later report, however, gave both seats in Queens county to the opposition with very small majorities.

A huge campaign fund was employed in the election by the forces of the opposition, and apparently with much success. The prohibition question proved quite an issue and returns seem to indicate that the majority of the temperance people of the province voted against the administration which had given them the prohibition measure.

There was no serious defection from the government forces in the English-speaking counties of the province, but in the French counties the government encountered serious reverses.

#### Result in St. John.

The result in St. John city and county was most gratifying for the government, five of the six seats being claimed by the supporters of Hon. Mr. Murray. The defeat of Mr. Granahan in the city will be greatly deplored. He was an active, conscientious representative and had given the city services of high value. Opposition Leader Foster, who nearly lost his deposit in the city in 1912, again met defeat on Saturday. He and his colleague, Mr. Bentley, were able to capture the parish of Martins, but lost the other parishes in the county.

#### Carter at Foot of Poll.

Kings county gave an emphatic answer to the campaign of vilification and abuse carried on by E. S. Carter. Mr. Carter occupied the cellar position and was nearly 500 votes behind the government candidates, Messrs. Murray, Jones and Dickson. Mr. Slipp did somewhat better than the opposition organizer, but he also met with a crushing defeat, being about 400 votes in the minority.

Charlotte county returns the complete government ticket. The majority there was upwards of 600, with Dr. Taylor the leader. The government four in York county were also elected with a handsome majority. Carleton county gave Eon. B. F. Smith and his colleagues a magnificent vote, the minister having nearly 800 majority over the highest member of the opposition ticket.

#### Albert County.

Albert county, likewise, sent two strong men in support of the government party.

The opposition carried both seats in Restigouche, the four seats in Northumberland, three seats in Kent, four seats in Westmorland, and in Moncton city, one in St. John city and two each in Queens, Sunbury, Victoria and Madawaska counties. The majority of the opposition candidates in Madawaska was in the vicinity of 1,000.

Of the representatives chosen by the people on Saturday twenty-five members have during previous terms occupied seats in the Legislative Assembly. Hon. C. W. Robinson, who was elected in Moncton city is a former member.

#### Ministers Defeated.

Three members of the government, Hon. D. V. Landry, Hon. A. P. Culligan and Hon. A. R. Slipp have been defeated. There is considerable probability, however, that the Minister of

Lands and Mines will be elected on a recount of the votes in Queens county, as unofficial figures give Dr. Hetherington a majority of only nineteen.

The result is a surprise to a great many citizens in the city and province. It was generally believed that the government would be sustained with a reduced majority, but few if any, were of the opinion that the contest would develop such close results. The government party have it to their credit the running of a clean election. No effort was made to corrupt the electors in any constituency the government candidates invariably waging a clean and fair fight.

#### Gloucester Votes Today.

It remains for the electors of Gloucester county today to decide which party shall govern New Brunswick during the next legislative term. The electors there have a heavy responsibility. They must judge between this government and the old government, whose desperate attempts to get back to the treasury benches have apparently met with success in the first day's polling.

A unique situation is not unlikely to develop in Gloucester county. To afford the opposition a working majority they will need to carry all four seats. Reports from Gloucester indicate that the government candidates have been well received and the election of the ticket headed by J. B. Hachey is confidently expected.

#### In Westmorland.

Disatisfaction over the management of the Intercolonial Railway system has served to operate strongly against the government in Moncton city. In Westmorland county as well as in Restigouche and Northumberland counties, whether the complaints are justifiable or not there is no denying the fact that considerable dissatisfaction exists and the provincial government candidates, who are not in any way to blame for the situation, have lost many votes as a direct result of the people being adverse to the present management of the road.

No matter which party is successful by-elections must of necessity take place. The government, if successful, will require to hold by-elections for the offices of Provincial Secretary and Minister of Lands and Mines, while the opposition, in the event of their success, will have to contest by-elections for the various portfolios in the provincial service. The eyes of the people of the whole province are centered on Gloucester

### SITUATION IN SWEDEN IS ACUTE

Necessary for Country to Take  
Sterner Measures to Safeguard Neutrality.

London, Feb. 25.—In the debate in the Swedish parliament yesterday, as reported in an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen the foreign minister, K. A. Wallenberg, declared that "something has happened in the last few days which makes it necessary for Sweden to take sterner measures to safeguard neutrality."

This declaration, which has made a deep impression in Sweden, was elicited by the refusal of the second chamber to vote for an appropriation of 30,000,000 kroner for military purposes. The first chamber passed the measure, but when it reached the second chamber 104 votes were cast against it and in favor of an appropriation of 10,000,000 kroner.

Vigorous efforts were made by the government to obtain the larger amount. Premier Hammarskjöld and the ministers of war, finance, and foreign affairs took part in the debate.

In sounding his warning the foreign minister said the opposition would soon be compelled to admit that the situation was graver for Sweden than ever before.

Stockholm newspapers say the declaration of the foreign minister created the greatest excitement.

### THE FOOD CONTROLLER ISSUES WARNING

London, Feb. 24.—In response to reports which fill the newspapers today, of impending increases in the prices of most commodities mentioned in the list of restricted importations, Baron Devonport, the food controller, tonight issued the following official warning:

"Baron Devonport desires to repeat the warning given by Premier Lloyd George, in his speech Friday, that no speculative buying or cornering of food supplies, with a view of raising the existing level of prices, will be permitted or tolerated. Should any such attempts be made the food controller will immediately take the necessary steps to protect the interests of the consumer. Baron Devonport will confer, in the course, with the representatives of the various trade interests affected."

### WILL INTERN GERMAN SUBMARINE NO. 30.

London, Feb. 25.—A despatch to Renter's Telegram Company from Flushing says the German submarine UB-30, which stranded on the Dutch island of Walcheren, in the North Sea last week, will be dismantled and interned at Flushing. The crew of the underwater boat also will be interned.

Two boys arrested. Two boys were arrested Saturday night on the charge of stealing coal in the government railway yards.

### GREAT INDIGNATION OVER SINKING OF DUTCH VESSELS

Three of Fleet of Seven Craft Sent to Bottom by German Submarines—Vessels Left Falmouth, England on Friday—Three Outward and Four Homeward Bound.

London, Feb. 25.—The fleet of seven Dutch vessels which were attacked by German submarines on Friday left Falmouth on Thursday, three being outward bound from Holland, and four homeward bound. The steamers had arrived at Falmouth on various dates and had been released at the special request of the Dutch government. No inquiry was made of the British authorities as to what was the best way of sailing, or as to the proper precautions to take, as it was believed the ships were sailing under a safe conduct from Germany, and the captains received special private instructions from the Dutch government. An official of the Dutch legation at London went to Falmouth and interviewed privately the captains of the seven ships, so as to be sure that they understood the instructions. The vessels bore the customary marks and lights.

#### List of Vessels.

They were only a short way from Falmouth (at the western end of the English Channel) when they were attacked by a German submarine, and three of the vessels were sunk and four damaged severely. Following is the list of vessels:

Gaestland, sunk, arrived Falmouth January 30, outward bound in ballast; Noorddijk, sunk, arrived Falmouth Feb. 4 inward bound with mails, no passengers, cargo 5,000 tons of wheat and 300 tons of flour consigned to the Dutch government; Jaalra, sunk, arrived Falmouth Feb. 7, inward bound. No mails, no passengers, cargo 7,500 tons of wheat, consigned to the Dutch government; Demland, afloat, arrived Falmouth January 25, outward bound, in ballast; Bandoeng, afloat, arrived Falmouth Feb. 2, inward bound, no passengers. Cargo 500 tons fodder cake, 2,200 tons copra, 1,100 tons oil seed, 150 tons of coffee and 600 tons of tobacco; Zaandijk, afloat, arrived Falmouth Feb. 5, outward bound, in ballast; Menado, towed to Falmouth, arrived Falmouth Feb. 11, inward bound, no mails, no passengers. Cargo 2,700 tons of copra, 400 tons of fodder, 300 tons of oil seed and 450 tons of tobacco.

#### Rescued By Trawler.

An officer of one of the torpedoed Dutch steamers, interviewed in London, said:

"We were about the western approach to the English Channel when we picked up the crew of a Norwegian steamer. Just afterward a U-boat appeared on the scene and apparently at first was only noticed by one of our ships, which stopped, the others going on. The submarine fired a torpedo which just missed our ship, then fired gunshots overhead until we all stopped.

"The submarine came up to each ship and said we must enter the boats within five minutes, as she was going to sink us because we were in English waters. We had barely time to leave the ship before the Germans began their work. But all the crews, I believe, got off safely. After being on the water for several hours we were rescued by trawlers and landed."

#### Indignation in Holland.

The Hague, via London, Feb. 25.—While official circles remain gravely calm, there has been an inevitable outburst of indignation on the part of the Dutch newspapers at what the Amsterdam Telegraaf calls "a blow in our face, and the greatest humiliation to which a neutral state has been subjected."

The paper adds: "We confess inability to see how the honor of our nation can further be maintained by protests."

Other less bellicose organs reflect hardly less embitterment on the part of the whole nation against the latest example of German ruthlessness, while even German circles, it is learned, profess deep regret at what they admit to be "a ghastly blunder."

#### What Huns Say.

The shipping section of the Amsterdam Bourse is demoralized, with losses ranging from ten to twenty per cent. The German legation at The Hague has issued a statement declaring that the disaster to the Dutch steamers was due "to an extremely regrettable coincidence of circumstances, which is unfortunate, but beyond our control."

The suggestion has been made to the Dutch government, the Associated Press learns, by leading ship-owners, that a half dozen German ships in Dutch or American ports be demanded as compensation for lost tonnage.

### SIR ROBERT BORDEN VISITS WOUNDED MEN

Is Also Guest at Tea Given by Lady to Wounded Canadians.

London, Feb. 24. (Montreal Gazette Cable).—Among the week-end engagements Sir Robert Borden found time today to attend a tea given by a West End lady to some of the Canadian wounded. Sir Robert conversed on Friday with several wounded who came from Halifax and Ottawa. It is probable that prior to the imperial conference the premier and his party may pay a visit to the front and to the fleet.

### BRAKEMAN LOSES LEG ON RAIL AT DARTMOUTH

Special to The Standard. Newcastle, Feb. 25.—At Newcastle station yesterday at eleven o'clock brakeman Gordon Doak of Dartmouth fell between the cars and had one of his legs taken clear off just below the hip. He is doing nicely in the Miramichi Hospital and will recover.

#### Two Boys Arrested.

Two boys were arrested Saturday night on the charge of stealing coal in the government railway yards.

### BRITISH TAKE VILLAGE OF PETIT MIRAUMONT

Victory Result of Advance Southeast of Miraimont—British Line South of Serre Pushed Forward On Front of One Mile.

French Repel Enemy and Also Make Two Successful Surprise Attacks on German Positions in Forest of Apremont and North of Badonvillers — British Force Back Turks in Hard Fight.

London, Feb. 24.—The village of Petit Miraimont, south of the Ancre, in France, has been entered by British troops as a result of an advance southeast of Miraimont, says the official statement from the war office tonight. The British line south and southeast of Serre, north of the Ancre, has been pushed forward on a front of over a mile and a half.

The text of the statement reads: "As a result of the unceasing pressure of our troops the enemy today vacated further important positions on both sides of the Ancre. We made considerable progress south and southeast of Miraimont, on a front of a mile, and entered the village of Petit Miraimont. We also advanced our line on a front of over one and one-half miles south and southeast of Serre."

"During the evening the enemy rushed one of our posts west of Lens. We recovered the post by an immediate counter-attack. There has been considerable mutual artillery activity at intervals during the day and night on both banks of the Somme, southwest of Arras and south of Ypres."

Germans Fail. Paris, Feb. 25.—"The usual cannonade occurred along the whole front," says the official communication issued by the war office tonight. "Except for two fruitless attempts by the enemy against our trenches at Vioul (Alsace) there was no infantry action."

Belgian communication: "There was sustained artillery activity along the whole front, and violent bomb fighting in the region of Steenstraete and Het Sas."

French Surprise Huns. Paris, Feb. 25.—"Last night our reconnoitering parties made two successful surprise attacks on German positions in the forest of Apremont and north of Badonvillers," says the official statement tonight. "There was intermittent cannonading on the remainder of the front."

"One of our aerial squadrons effectively bombarded the railway stations at Grand Pre and Romagne-Sous-Montfaucon."

Turks Repelled. London, Feb. 25.—The following official communication dealing with the operations in Asiatic Turkey was issued by the war office this evening: "The southern portion of the Sannaiyat position, captured in the first assault Thursday, consisted of two lines of trenches on a frontage of 450 yards, and to a depth of 10 yards. The Turks delivered six counter-attacks, but, although one of them was temporarily successful, we secured and consolidated all our gains."

"On the afternoon of Thursday a further assault was launched against the Turks' first and second lines to the north, and in prolongation of those secured in the morning, and our whole objective was gained. Heavy Turkish counter-attacks temporarily retarded our progress, but we finally consolidated our gains, and at the end of the day the first two lines of trenches on a front of 900 yards were firmly in our hands."

Artillery Active. Paris, Feb. 25.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads: "Our artillery was active in the region of Le or Mt. Homme. Our shelling was attended with good results. Intermittent artillery actions occurred at various points along the front in Lorraine and the Vosges. Quiet prevailed everywhere else."

The Belgian communication: "Bomb lighting was resumed with violence in the region of Steenstraete and Het Sas. The usual artillery actions took place at divers points along the front."

### SOLDIERS DO NOT LIKE FARMING

Canada First to Evolve Plan for Re-educating Returned Men.

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—The experience of M. T. B. Kidner, who has charge of vocational training in connection with the military hospitals' commission, is that very few of the returned soldiers want to go on the land. He made the statement today to the parliamentary committee on returned soldiers, which is meeting here that of 340 men belonging to Alberta who were asked by the provincial secretary if they wanted to go farming, only six replied that they did. His own experience was similar of fifty men he asked personally, only one had any desire to go on the land.

Sir Herbert Ames, the chairman, thought this was to be explained by the fact that nearly all of the first Canadian contingent were city men who did not care for country life. Eighty per cent of them were old country men, he said.

This question of placing soldiers on the land interested the committee and Mr. Kidner was asked what his opinion was. He said that from his experience many might be willing to go to the country if they were given a farm in a pleasant valley, well equipped, and had two or three thousand dollars in their pockets. The general tendency of the returned soldiers was to the city and not to the country.

Mr. Kidner who said that Canada was the first dominion of the warring nations to evolve a plan for the re-education of the soldiers, gave an exhaustive review of what had been done by the hospital commission. He said that about fifteen hundred men had completed their vocational training at the convalescent hospitals up to the end of January 1917 of these being in Quebec, and 348 in Ontario. About twelve thousand men altogether had passed through the hands of the hospital commission. That did not mean of course that they were all in the hospitals.

CONFERENCE OF NEUTRALS AND GERMAN OFFICIALS. London, Feb. 25.—The German Chancellor, Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, is reported by the Exchange Telegraph's Copenhagen correspondent to have invited the ambassadors and ministers of neutral countries to a conference yesterday at the foreign office, in which foreign secretary Zimmermann took part.