

BRITAIN PLANS INCREASED NAVAL ACTIVITY IN NORTH SEA

Albert Sevigny, Conservative Candidate, Elected in Dorchester County

BRITISH ATTACK IN BLIZZARD AND TAKE GERMAN POSITIONS Great Naval Developments in North Sea are Presaged STEAMER LAURENTIC SUNK OFF THE COAST OF IRELAND

Germans Trapped and Forced to Surrender Without a Fight; Many Prisoners Taken

With the British Armies in France, Jan. 23 (via London, Jan. 28)—From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.—In spite of the hard weather conditions, a gallant attack was made to-day by British troops against a strong German point on the Somme, resulting in its capture, with three officers and more than 300 men. The Germans apparently did not anticipate an attack, and were somewhat off guard, owing perhaps to the heavy frost and strong blizzard sweeping over the snow-covered field. The Germans remained snugly in their dugouts, probably believing that the British would do the same.

Outwardly there was no movement within the British line, but in the trenches the troops were waiting for a sudden attack which had been well prepared for and organized beforehand. Suddenly the ordinary desultory fire of the British batteries was concentrated in a terrific drum fire, flinging shells of enormous destructive force upon the German trenches and defensive works.

The barbed wire before the German positions was cut as though by sharp shears. Following the curtain of fire, the British troops went briskly out into No Man's Land. The breath of the men looked like a smoke cloud as they went across the field of hummocky snow and shell craters filled with shells.

Trapped in Dugouts The British troops had been cold, but fresh with the heat of battle, they moved forward like a machine and carried out the operations with precision and self-control almost without a pause.

The Germans were trapped in their dugouts. The British boys were over and around the position before the Germans could get up to bomb them or fire upon them with machine guns. The whole garrison of the strong point surrendered almost without a fight, seemingly thinking that resistance was useless. The British suffered few losses and sent back the prisoners in triumph.

Meanwhile the German gunners had seen signals of distress, and presently they became aware of the fact that the strong point had been captured. They came out of their dugouts and began firing at the captured position, but the visibility was bad, owing to the whitish fog, and the German drum fire was not so intense as in former days on the Somme front.

The British troops had taken possession of the deep underground rooms within the German position. In this way, the officers laughingly said, they celebrated the German Emperor's birthday.

Neutrals to Hold Conference

London, Jan. 29.—Confirming the report that the Dutch minister at Stockholm had been directed to participate in a conference of neutral nations, the Danish newspaper Politiken is quoted by the correspondent at Copenhagen as saying that the Telegraph Company is saying that Sweden's invitation to Holland to participate was the outcome of a meeting held in Christiania, Norway, last autumn. It is intended to discuss at the coming conference, the correspondent adds, the interests of neutrals during the war as well as the attitude of neutrals during peace negotiations. The date for holding the conference has not been fixed.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, Jan. 29.—A storm is developing over the great lakes, the weather has again turned extremely cold in the western provinces and continues very cold in eastern Quebec and the Maritime provinces while in western Ontario it is mild and in Quebec moderating. FORECASTS: Southerly winds, with occasional rain. Tuesday High northwest winds and becoming much colder.

Russia Has Trouble With Food Supplies

London, Jan. 29.—Russia is experiencing famine in the midst of plenty, according to an undated article in The Times from a correspondent in that country. The article refers chiefly, but not exclusively, to Petrograd and Moscow. The writer believes that there is enough food in Russia to supply the entire population for two years, but owing to the inadequacy of the railroads, the lack of organization and co-ordination in distribution, the people in some districts find it difficult and even impossible to get supplies. The people of Petrograd have to stand in queues for many hours, to obtain meat, bread, milk, sugar and vegetables. The thermometer in the capital is sometimes 20 below zero.

'ENTENTE MUST ACT AT ONCE'

Italian Deputy Demands Adoption of a Concerted Plan of Drive

With Million Men Into Alsace Lorraine is Urged

Rome, Jan. 29.—(New York Times cable)—"The Entente must act without losing an instant," says Deputy Marazzi, a general who has done excellent work at the front. He urges the adoption of a concerted practical plan, either timing at the dismemberment of Austria by attacking her simultaneously from the Carso, the Balkans and Galicia, or making an irresistible drive with 1,000,000 men into Alsace-Lorraine. In the first case, he says, Italy's right wing should be supported by a British fleet in the gulf of Trieste, following the method employed in the North Sea and the English channel when the Germans threatened Calais. In the second, Italy should

SEVIGNY WINS DORCHESTER ELECTION BY MAJORITY OF 276

Minister of Inland Revenue Fought Issue on the War to a Victorious Finish

St. Henedine, Dorchester County, Que., Jan. 28.—Victory perched on the banner of Hon. A. Sevigny yesterday when the electors of Dorchester County, after one of the most strenuous battles in political annals in the province, gave the new minister a majority of 276 over his Liberal opponent, Mr. Lucien Cannon, who deserted his provincial mandate for the same county to fight Mr. Sevigny.

The Conservative parishes clung to Mr. Sevigny and were more Conservative than in the last provincial elections, when Mr. Cannon was elected by over 600 majority, while the Liberal strongholds of St. Germaine and St. Leon de Standon fell off in their majorities for the Liberal candidate.

Both candidates received the news at St. Henedine, within a few doors from each other, and the promptness with which they came in enabled the result to be known by 6 o'clock. The county was all excitement and Hon. Mr. Sevigny was heartily cheered. A special train which took him and party back to Quebec stopped at various places along the line, and the minister made short speeches at various intervals.

Hon. Mr. Sevigny handed out the following statement after receipt of news to the effect that he had been elected:

"I am glad for my county and for myself," he said. "I was afraid of the result only for one reason—because the instructions given by the Liberal organization to their speakers were to the effect that they were to say that a vote for Sevigny meant conscription in two weeks from now. I can prove that such instructions

were given to all the Liberal speakers in the county.

"In this election, I have from the first meeting to the last, put the question of the war before my electors, and I have told them that it was our duty to make all sacrifices in order to win the war. I am glad to see that the French-Canadians have understood the present situation and have refused to support my opponent, and all the denegators who came to help him in Dorchester. The people of the Province of Quebec are in perfect sympathy with the rest of Canada in the present war, and if there was less politics from the Liberal party, the French-Canadians would do exactly as our great soldiers of the 22nd Battalion, Asselin's Battalion, and others, to win the war.

"I hope that the leaders of the Liberal party of the Province of Quebec will now understand that this is no time for small politics, and that all the best men of the province should unite on the great issues of the day for the allies.

"My opponents have raised the bilingual question against me. On this question every honest man who knows my past understands that I want to see both races united in this country, and justice done to every minority. If both parties in the Province of Quebec were united on the question of the war, I am sure that the majority in Canada would realize that we are in sympathy with all our Canadian compatriots on the war and when the war is over, it will be easy to settle every bilingual question in every province of Canada.

"I am proud of my good people of Dorchester, and I am sure that their splendid conduct in the present election will mean great service to all my French-Canadian compatriots in Canada."

Extension of Naval Danger Zone For Belligerents Operations

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Jan. 29.—Nothing has been officially announced here in regard to the extension of the "dangerous to shipping" zone in the North Sea, but the censor has permitted the publication of Scandinavian despatches referring to the new naval measure. According to telegrams from Copenhagen, Scandinavian traffic with Scotland hereafter will be very difficult and the Danish fishing industry will be considerably hampered.

A warning that Great Britain had made a considerable extension to the danger zone in the North Sea, was received by the State department in Washington on Saturday from the American embassy at London. The new line cuts off the entire German North Sea coast and its purpose is presumed to be to bottle up more closely the German warships at the entrance to the Baltic, and to prevent the possibility of the escape of raiders.

Washington, Jan. 28.—Important naval developments in the European war are presaged in an innocent-looking British Admiralty statement declaring an enlarged area of the North Sea dangerous to shipping on account of belligerent operations. The announcement of the Admiralty is forwarded here by the Embassy at London.

Heretofore the principal area named as dangerous by the British authorities was a rectangular mined area extending from the mouth of the Scheldt River opposite Flushing to the Kentish Knock Lightship and Goodwin Sands lightship, opposite the entrance to the Thames. This mine field was established to bar the entry of German naval forces into the Straits of Dover and the English Channel.

Keep Canal Corked The new "dangerous area" is apparently designed to serve as a bulwark against the egress of the German fleet from the Kiel Canal and its various bases on the North Sea coast of Germany, for it is so delimited so as to make a large area of water opposite these German bases dangerous to shipping, merchant captains being warned not to enter this region except at their risk.

The new banned area starts about twenty miles east of Flamborough Head, on the British east coast, and spreads out in a fan-shaped form toward Jutland, on the Danish coast, and Terscelling Bank, opposite the Island of Terscelling, on the Dutch coast of Holland. Everything South and east of this area is also within the dangerous zone. The northwestern limits of the new danger zone pass through the Dogger Banks.

By this action the British Government, for military and naval reasons, has virtually closed the North Sea east of the Dogger Banks, between a point high on the Danish coast and a point where the Dutch makes its wide bend eastward. The only waters within this area safe for shipping are the Danish and Dutch territorial waters, that is, a three-mile strip of water fringing their coasts.

Mines to be Freely Used. How this new area has been, or will be, rendered dangerous is not disclosed. It is believed that mines will be freely used here, and that the British fleet will be so distributed as virtually to put a fighting cordon around the North Sea exits of Germany.

According to the views of American naval experts, the purposes of the British naval authorities are as follows: First, to prevent the egress of German sea raiders, as well as the return of those recently roving the Atlantic.

Second, to enable the British fleet to deal better with the German fleet should it take another dash into the North Sea this spring.

Third, to prevent German raiding forces from making dashes across the North Sea to attack the coast of England.

Fourth—to enable the British navy to stop the voyages of the Deutschland and other German commercial submarines.

FIRE IN CHEMICAL WORKS

By Courier Leased Wire.

Amsterdam, via London, Jan. 29.—The Dusseldorf General Anzeiger reports that a fire in a chemical works near Cologne on Saturday caused the explosion of a great quantity of explosives. Two persons were killed, two severely injured and several slightly hurt, while considerable material damage was done.

Austria and Hungary to Reach Final Agreement

Amsterdam, Jan. 28.—via London, Jan. 29.—According to a Budapest telegram, Count Stephen Tisza, the Hungarian premier, replying to a question in the Hungarian parliament said that an agreement had been reached between the Austrian and Hungarian governments guaranteeing each government the right to give notice of the termination of commercial treaties of the monarchy. This right regarding a commercial treaty with Germany, which terminated at the end of December 12, has not been used, he explained. He further declared that in the course of 1917 a final, or provisional agreement between Austria and Hungary would be concluded and therefore, he said, there was still time to give notice of the termination of commercial treaties with foreign countries.

THE PEACEMAKER



The Neutral: "Why don't you let him go—he says he has had enough?" The Ally: "Yes, but he's such an infernal liar."—From London Opinion.

HIGH WATER MARK REACHED IN BRITISH OUTPUT OF MUNITIONS

Supply is Now Sufficient For Demands of Army, and Domestic Production is Given Consideration

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Jan. 17.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—The high water mark has now been reached and passed in making British guns, shells and all kinds of ammunition for the Allied armies.

The fact now presents the large problem of diverting this production into new and useful channels by which England will again supply the outside world with goods, thus diminishing the steady outflow of gold and checking the decline in the British exchange rate.

At the ministry of munitions and the Board of Trade, inquiries by the Associated Press brought out some interesting facts on the maximum point reached in guns and shell production, and the need now of turning to more useful lines of domestic production and exports. At the ministry of munitions these facts were given out:

There are now 4,623 private factories and works, ordinarily employed in various useful kinds of metal production, which have been taken over by the government and are now "controlled" works. These are in addition to the regular government factories. There are 2,225,000 employees working in these "controlled" and government factories making exclusively guns and shells. This enormous production has now reached a point where the equipment of the army is approximately complete in some of the main lines, such as light-field pieces, so that the manufacture of eighteen pounder guns has had to be slackened

in the last few weeks instead of further increased. The establishment of pieces of the 4.5 calibre is also practically complete. In trench mortar ammunition and grenades also the production has been so developed that any further increase seems unnecessary.

The number of "controlled" factories making the one article of munitions is more than half of all the factories usually employed in metal industry, making all kinds of iron and steel goods from a nail up to steel beams, steel rails and all kinds of machinery, as well as infinite variety of small metal goods usually exported by England.

The number of people employed in this one industry of gun and shell-making is a large percentage of the total British working population. The entire membership of all the trades unions last year was about 5,000,000, while those now working in gun and shell-making is 2,250,000 or about half of the full trade union strength which includes about half of all the wage earners. Before the war there were about 50,000 unionist workers in all the various metal trades, which is only one fourth the number of those now employed in the single industry of making guns and shells.

The extent of which this gun and shell output has grown is shown by the figures given at the ministry of munitions. The comparison is made between June 1915, when the war had just got under way and the production to-day.

For every heavy howitzer produced to-day.

Destroyed Either by Sub. or Collision With a Mine; 121 Persons Saved

London, Jan. 29.—The British auxiliary cruiser Laurentic, of 14,832 tons gross, has been sunk by a submarine or as a result of striking a mine, according to an official statement issued yesterday by the British Admiralty. Twelve officers and 109 men were saved.

The Laurentic before entering the British naval service was in the service of the Ocean Steam Navigation Company of Liverpool.

She was 550 feet long, and was launched at Belfast in 1908.

The Admiralty statement adds that the vessel went down off the Irish coast last Thursday.

Before being taken over by the British Admiralty for auxiliary cruiser duty, the Laurentic was in the Canadian service of the White Star Dominion Line. The vessel was owned by the Ocean Steam Navigation Company of Liverpool.

In the first two years of the war the Laurentic was engaged in doing patrol duty in the Far East, but several months ago returned to European waters.

The launching of the Laurentic at Belfast in 1908 marked the entry of the White Star Line into the Canadian trade in conjunction with the Dominion Line. The vessel was said to be the first passenger steamship to be fitted with a combination of reciprocating engines with a low pressure turbine. At that time the Laurentic was the largest vessel in Canadian trade. She was 555 feet long, with a beam of 67 feet four inches. In addition to accommodation for 150 first class passengers, 430 second class and 650 third class passengers, she was equipped with six cargo holds with large refrigeration chambers. The Laurentic was a sister ship of the Megantic, another ship in the Canadian service which was requisitioned by the British Admiralty.

A Troopship The Laurentic was one of the troopships which carried the last Canadian contingents across the Atlantic, and is the third of the vessels in the great armada that sailed from Quebec on October 1st, 1914, to go to the bottom of the sea. The others which have been torpedoed or sunk by mines were the Royal Edward and the Francoeur. The Queen Mary, one of the battle ships which conveyed the Canadian troops, was sunk in the battle of Jutland.

Two only, finest quality Hudson Seal Coats to clear, \$175.00 coat for \$140.00; \$165.00 coat for \$135.00. Great reductions in all our furs—W. L. Hughes Ltd., 127 Colborne Street.

The Annual Meeting of the CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION FOR BRANTFORD RIDING

Will Take Place on— Saturday, Feb. 3rd

at Conservative Headquarters corner of Dalhousie and King Streets. Proceedings commence at 8 p.m. and all Conservatives are cordially invited.

There will be election of officers and speeches by W. F. Cockshutt, M. P. and others.

N. D. NEILL Secretary

H. COCKSHUTT, President

ATRE WEDNESDAY ... Strong ... n. 27th ... Producers of ... Harris (Selwyn ... Drug Store, Paris ... SK ... ON ... ghts" ... Success— ... dom" ... SDAY— ... ooked this big ... SK ... RD IN ... nted ... Once ... nced Steno— Please ... by letter, ... experience ... s previously ... oyed by ... in confid— ... P. O. Box ... MALE PILLS ... FOR MEN ...