

KITCHENER CALLS FOR SECOND CONTINGENT; FRENCH OFFENSIVE IN WEST PROGRESSING

SUMMONS HAS COME FOR SECOND CONTINGENT

Premier Borden Announces Receipt of Call from War Secretary for More Canadian Soldiers—Will Leave Within Short Time, but Date Not Revealed—Premier Reviews Work of Government in Mobilizing and Preparing Men for Overseas Service.

Ottawa, April 11.—Kitchener's call has come. The eager men of Canada's Second Expeditionary Force will go forward at an unrevealed date in the early future to join their comrades of the First Contingent at the front. This date was approximately determined by the head of the British War Office nearly two months ago. Since that time he has been in constant communication with Canada's minister of Militia. Now the definite summons has been received.

Three months ago Lord Kitchener was notified that the troops were ready to depart at any moment when they might be required. Since that time the War Office has been kept fully informed of its training and has from time to time made suggestions which have "been followed with absolute precision."

The reasons that the War Office did not summon the troops earlier were "reasons which commended themselves to the head of the War Office, and reasons which are generally recognized."

Other essentials had also to be taken into account. The enormous number of men now under training in Britain make it not the easiest task to provide for accommodations and train-

ing the various contingents of the overseas dominions. "The War Office, and particularly Lord Kitchener himself are thoroughly anxious that when the Second Contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force goes forward there will be no room for possible criticism."

Such was the announcement of Premier Borden to parliament on Saturday night's sitting. Sir Robert Borden entered the house with the Minister of Militia. He rose almost at once to make his statement. Time and again during its progress he was interrupted by applause from both sides of the house, cheers which were as heartily revived when Hon. Frank Oliver, who was momentarily leading the Liberal opposition, rose to express the sentiment of the minority. "We Canadians are not outsiders in this fight," said Mr. Oliver.

"It is our fight, too. This is not only a fight to preserve the neutrality of Belgium, but to preserve the British Empire, and all it stands for. Only in the months to come will we be able to realize the sacrifice it will be necessary for us to make. But we all stand earnestly prepared to face whatever may come, with a courage and devotion that will ultimately bring victory."

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BEFORE THE WAR



German Spy—"Dot Laurier bandt couldn't play in harmony mit us better had it been made in Germany."

French Offensive in the Woevre Prelude to Big General Advance

GERMAN WEDGE BEING ATTACKED ON BOTH FLANKS—PRINCIPAL CHAIN OF CARPATHIANS IN CONTROL OF RUSSIANS—ALLIED FLEET ATTACKS DARDANELLES FURT FROM GULF OF SAROS TO PREVENT TURKS REPAIRING THEM.

London, April 11.—The French offensive in the Woevre, which, according to official reports from Paris, continues to make progress, although the Germans reiterate that all the French attacks have been repulsed, it is believed is but the prelude to a big general effort in the west.

With the two general staffs in direct conflict it is difficult to gauge the results of the fighting. Military experts here, however, express the conviction that the Germans will be compelled to send reinforcements to strengthen their wedge, which penetrates to St. Mihiel, and which is being attacked on both flanks, and that as soon as this movement begins the allies will strike at the point thus weakened, and perhaps the whole line.

With the operations in this district of France those in the Carpathians divide interest, which is being barely satisfied with the meagre official reports from the various headquarters.

Fighting Under Difficulties.

The Russians, like the French, are apparently making progress in the capture of important points which are essential before a general forward movement can be undertaken. They are in possession of the whole principal chain of the Carpathians, and at some points are descending the southern slopes, and are approaching,

if they are not already in, the Uzoak Valley south of the pass of that name.

Fighting is going on under extremely difficult conditions, the ground being covered with snow, which is commencing to soften, while the Austro-Germans continue to bring up reinforcements in an endeavor to check the advance. The Russians, however, appear to have confidence on their ability to handle the task, for simultaneously they are showing considerable activity both on the East Prussian frontier, where they claim success over the Germans, and to the south of the Vistula, where the Germans say they have repulsed a Russian attack.

The allied fleet has, according to unofficial reports, been bombarding the Dardanelles forts from the Gulf of Saros. This, doubtless, is being done to prevent the Turks from repairing the forts, for it is not believed here that the big attack will be resumed until the land forces arrive.

Unofficial reports also continue to come in regarding the gun firing off the Norwegian coast on Wednesday night last, concerning which the Admiralty as yet has made nothing public. The Scandinavian papers are convinced that a sea battle has occurred, although they variously describe it as a battle between British and German cruisers, and a chase by British or German submarines.

Belgian Relief Ship Sunk in North Sea

Torpedoed or Sunk—Believed Twenty-six of Crew Perished—Was Under Charter to Relief Commission and on Way Back to New York from Rotterdam.

Rotterdam, April 11, via London.—The British steamer Harpalyc, the first relief boat of New York State, and under charter to the Commission for Relief in Belgium, has either been torpedoed or sunk by a mine in the North Sea.

The Dutch steamer Elizabeth, on its voyage from Rotterdam for New York on Saturday, picked up twenty-two of the crew of the Harpalyc, seven miles northeast of Noordhinder Lightship and brought them back to Rotterdam. The Dutch steamer Constantia picked up five men and took them to Nieuwe Waterweg. The steamer carried a crew of fifty-

three men, twenty-six of whom, it is feared, have been drowned.

Those rescued by the Elizabeth include the second mate and second engineer, the latter in a wounded condition.

The Harpalyc, under its charter to the Belgian Relief Commission, had a permit securing immunity from attack. The Harpalyc, 3,591 tons, was a comparatively new steamer, owned by J. & C. Harrison, of London. She sailed from New York on March 7 with more than eleven thousand individual gifts for the relief of the Belgians, and arrived at Rotterdam on March 30. It is presumed that the Harpalyc was on her return voyage,

AMAZING STORY OF LAND STEALING UNDER GRIT RULE

WHOLESALE FRAUD IN GRANTING OF HOMESTEADS FLOURISHED UNDER OLIVER'S ADMINISTRATION OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR—KNEW OF CROOKED WORK GOING ON BUT RETAINED IN SERVICE MEN WHO WERE ROBBING COUNTRY.

Ottawa, Ont., April 11.—An amazing and sensational story of robbery and land stealing is contained in the report of T. R. Ferguson, the commissioner who was appointed to examine into the frauds in connection with the granting of homesteads and the malfeasance of officials of the Department of Interior under the administration of Hon. Frank Oliver, a portion of which was tabled in the Commons yesterday. Still more sensational evidence will be forthcoming later.

Mr. Ferguson investigated matters relating to the disposition of Dominion lands, timber and mineral lands, Indians and Indian Reserves. The portion of report which was given this house on Saturday deals with (1) Robert Cruise, Liberal, M. P. for Dauphin, Man., and W. A. Davis, lands and forests ranger, (2) the Blood Indian Reserve and Frank Pedley, until recently superintendent of Indian affairs.

The report shows that Robert Cruise represented himself as a "squatter" on a quarter section which now forms part of Riding Mountain Reserve in the Dauphin district. Cruise was not a "squatter" and obtained this homestead by fraud. In his evidence he admits he never lived on the land in question, that his home was some miles away and that for years prior to and subsequent to 1907 when he got the homestead he had lived on the same farm which is near Dauphin.

Davis, with whose connivance Cruise got the farm, and who was at that time chief forest ranger for the reserve in question stated in his evidence that Cruise was not a "squatter" and was not entitled to file on this homestead.

Obtained Patent By Fraud

The commissioner finds further that Mr. Cruise was not the owner of all the cattle mentioned in the memorandum filed in his behalf, and that he obtained his patent on "improper representation" of the facts. The ownership of at least twenty head of cattle was necessary in order to qualify for a patent and Mr. Cruise only owned thirteen head at the time. He effected a deal with a neighbor who owned seven head of cattle and gave a promissory note for them. Both the cattle and the note were returned after this had served the fraudulent purpose of the member for Dauphin.

It was brought out in evidence that Hon. Frank Oliver during one of his visits to Dauphin gave Mr. Herchermer the Dominion lands agent at that point, instructions to grant whatever applications were signed by Davis as long as the "head office" stated they were available.

Mr. Herchermer in his evidence stated that he knew that many of the applications sent in by Davis were fraudulent, but said he had no option but to grant them.

Willing To Act As Party's Dupe

Davis frankly admitted that he knew that hundreds of the applications sent in by him were fraudulent but said he allowed himself to be

"used for the benefit of the party" in this matter. He described his assistants, Albert McLeod and Sam Cohen, as very "slick and capable workers" and in order to facilitate their work he signed a number of applications in blank and handed them over to his underlings. Davis swore he knew that both these men were sending in applications of men who were not squatters at all.

Davis said that sixty per cent. of the recommendations he made for homesteads were fraudulent. Mr. Herchermer estimated the fraudulent entries made at that time as high as eighty per cent. of the total.

An idea of the magnitude of these frauds is obtained when it is borne in mind that hundreds of these applications were turned in. The application of the party test was the only test applied.

Mr. Ferguson points out that notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Oliver's attention had been drawn by one of the officials of his department to the suspicious work of Davis his services were retained until the government was changed.

R. E. A. Leach, of the "This Red Line" fame was twice delegated by the late government to investigate the work of Davis, and he reported that he found everything "all right."

The second division of Commissioner Ferguson's report has to do with the grazing privileges on the Blood Indian Reserve near McLeod, Alberta and the connection therewith of Frank Pedley. In the year 1903 several applications were made for these privileges. One was made by George McLaughlan, of Toronto, who had associated with him Charles Miller, barrister, of Toronto. They had reason for hoping that it would be granted and went so far as to organize a cattle company and engage a foreman to look after their interests.

However, says the report, Mr. Pedley had other plans. An application on behalf of Donald McEwen was put in by a firm of Ottawa solicitors, Latchford McDougall and Daly, and it is indicated that the application was really on behalf of Peter Ryan of Toronto, with whom he had numerous transactions in recent years. Mr. McEwen, although his application came in the year after McLaughlan's, got the grazing lease. Mr. Pedley, who was still superintendent general of Indian affairs, became, according to the evidence, the beneficial owner of one-sixth interest in the Blood Reserve privilege, and he became owner of this interest by virtue of an assignment of the same to him by Peter Ryan. This one-sixth interest was held in trust for Frank Pedley by A. C. Bedford Jones, a Toronto lawyer, for a period of four years, when it was sold to Charles Miller for \$1,000, which money was paid over to Mr. Pedley. Mr. Jones retained \$100 for looking after the legal affairs.

Mr. Pedley admitted having received the \$1,000 but refused to admit that Mr. Jones had been acting as trustee for him.

It is understood that still more sensational evidence will be forthcoming within a few days.

Canadian Casualties

Ottawa, April 11.—The casualties among the Canadian Expeditionary Force announced by the Militia Department today are as follows:

PRINCESS PATRICIAS.
Died of Wounds.

Corporal E. C. King, April 10, (transferred from 32nd Battalion), at Canadian Military Hospital, Shorncliffe. Next of kin, Y. King, No. 32 Randolph Gardens, London, W. Eng.

SECOND BATTALION.
Wounded.

Private John Carpenter, March 30. Next of kin, Mrs. J. Carpenter (mother), No. 74 Creclian street, Maidstone, Kent, Eng.

TENTH BATTALION.
Wounded.

Private F. C. Hunt, March 31. Next of kin, C. W. Hunt, No. 38 Valetta Grove, Plaistow, Essex, Eng.

ELEVENTH BATTALION.

Death.

Lt. Stanley Hall Mitchell, April 7, at Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, while under operation for appendicitis. Next of kin, Alice L. Mitchell, No. 197 Mayfair Ave., Winnipeg.

FIFTEENTH BATTALION.

Wounded.

Lance Corporal Hugh Rose, April 1. Next of kin, Mrs. Jane Rose, No. 170 University Ave., Toronto, Ont.

THIRTY-SECOND BATTALION.

Seriously ill.

Private Thomas P. Thomas, pneumonia, at Military Hospital, Shorncliffe. Next of kin, Caroline Edith Thomas, (wife), Shelmouth, Man.

DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

Wounded.

March 29.—Private R. T. Douglas. Next of kin, Edward Douglas (father), 6 Glenburn Terrace, Rowlandsgill, Durham, Eng.

WELSFORD MAN IS VICTIM OF EXPLOSION

George Scott Died as Result of Injuries—Was Splitting Wood With Gunpowder.

While splitting wood with gun powder at Welsford on Saturday morning George A. Scott was so badly injured that he died early this morning in the General Public Hospital here. The powder exploded prematurely while Mr. Scott was heaving over a stick of wood in which a charge had been inserted. He was blown a distance of twelve feet. He was brought to the hospital here Saturday night.

Mr. Scott with two other men were engaged with a sawing and splitting machine at Welsford. It was the custom to split sticks too hard for the machine by gun powder. A large stick had been drilled and the charge inserted when Mr. Scott was bending over it the explosion occurred. He was driven back about twelve feet.

Drs. McDonald and Lewin were immediately summoned and all possible was done for the injured man. His left leg was broken, as well as his right ankle and left wrist. His wrist was also badly mangled and both eyes were injured. He suffered a severe cut in the head which required seven stitches.

It was decided to bring him to the hospital here on the Boston train Saturday night.

Everything possible was done for him but he gradually sank and passed away this morning shortly after midnight.

Mr. Scott was 65 years of age, and is survived by his wife, three daughters, Mrs. George Emery and Mrs. George Dolan, Summer Hill, and Miss Edith Scott at home, and one son, Steen Scott at home.

NETHERLANDS SENDS PROTEST TO GERMANY

For Sinking of Dutch Steamer by Submarine U-28—Germany Will Likely Pay Indemnity.

The Hague, via London, April 11.—The Netherlands government has handed to Germany a note of protest concerning the sinking of the Dutch steamer Medea, which was sent to the bottom off Beachy Head March 25 by the German submarine U-28. The German government is considering a reply, and it is thought probable, in ministerial circles here, that it will offer to pay an indemnity in accordance with international law, but this is dependent upon the judicial decision.

A feeling of the utmost confidence regarding the relations between Holland and Germany is expressed here, and the alarming rumors in London are considered inexplicable.

CONSERVATIVES OF WENTWORTH CO., ONT., CHOSE C. C. WILSON, M.P.

Hamilton, Ont., April 11.—The Conservatives of Wentworth County yesterday nominated Gordon C. Wilson, M. P., as candidate for the House of Commons.

FRENCH STEAMER TORPEDOED
Plymouth, Eng., April 12 (2.55 p.m.).—The French steamer Franck, was torpedoed off Start Point, in the English Channel, Sunday, but was towed into Plymouth by government tugs. No lives were lost.