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The Toronto World

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TUESDAY MORNING JANUARY 29 1918—FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 13,593 TWO CENTS

ENEMY AIRPLANES ATTACKED FROM THE AIR

REFORMS IN CIVIL SERVICE A PRIORITY BY GOVERNMENT

Commissioners' Report in Favor of New Act for Submission at Next Parliament—New Regulations Affecting All Branches Will Be Introduced.

Ottawa, Jan. 28.—Reforms in the civil service are announced. The civil service commissioners have reported in favor of a new civil service act for submission to parliament next session, if possible, and they have received instructions from the government to prepare such legislation as they think necessary.

Extension of the civil service act to all branches of the outside service is the main reform under consideration. This was announced in the program issued by the union government in October, shortly after its formation, in the words:

"Civil service reform, with a view to extending the principle of the present civil service act to the outside service, and thus to abolish patronage and to make appointments to the public service upon the sole standard of merit."

An official statement issued tonight deals with the proposed reforms. It reads: At the time of the announcement by the prime minister on behalf of the Union government that civil service reform would be carried out, the civil service commissioners were asked to make a report outlining the steps and measures which in the judgment of the commission would be necessary for the purpose of carrying into effect the policy then set forth.

The whole question is hot free from difficulties as it makes it difficult to obtain credit for the present civil service act or of the proposed new act to all branches of the outside service involves considerable difficulty and requires very careful consideration of the difficulties that will be made for the selection in a territory half as large as Europe of employees, both temporary and permanent, on a standard of merit. This requires a careful test by examination or otherwise and the present arrangement for examinations in various parts of Canada will require to be considerably extended for many years.

Will Draft Regulation. However, recent consultations with the members of the civil service commission have led to the conclusion that pending the enactment of new legislation, and the more careful consideration of the difficulties alluded to, it is possible in the immediate future to establish certain regulations under the provisions of the present civil service act which will very largely carry out the proposals set forth in the government's policy as already made public.

German Government Fails To Get Vote of Confidence. Amsterdam, Jan. 28.—A Berlin despatch to The Vester Zeitung says that the government desired a vote of confidence by the reichstag, but at a joint meeting of the various parties on Friday the proposal was wrecked by Socialist opposition.

BIG PROBLEMS TO BE DECIDED BY GOVERNMENT

Number of Vital Questions to Come Up During the Coming Week.

SOME DRASTIC STEPS Policies for Food Economy Already Forecasted Likely to Be Enforced.

Special to The Toronto World. Ottawa, Jan. 28.—Government decision on a number of vital war and domestic problems is probable during the coming week. Vastly important questions, such as the labor shortage, the railway problem, shipbuilding, enforcement of the Military Service Act, food conservation and civil service reform, have been engaging the attention of the war and reconstruction committees of cabinet, and it is understood that announcement of government policies will not long be withheld.

Tomorrow there will be an important conference between the war committee of cabinet and representatives of Canadian labor. The preliminary conference which adjourned a week ago was not representative of Dominion-wide labor, the provinces of Quebec and Ontario only sending delegates. Tomorrow's gathering will be much more representative. Labor men will be present from all the provinces, with suggestions as to the best means for increasing production vitally necessary to sustain allied effort in the field.

THIRTY CORDS OF WOOD AT TRINITY COLLEGE

Dead Trees Were Cut Down Several Years Ago and Were to Fit Only For Wood.

These days when the shivering household is making to obtain credit for any price, it will be a refreshing sight for him to go to Trinity College, West Queen Street, and plow through the drifts of snow towards the rear. He may get his feet wet, but resting in a corner at the northeast section he will see a pile of wood that will be worth the journey. It has been there for the past three years, and it may be a fair estimate to average the amount at about twelve cords. It is elm and oak, and was cut down by the city some three years ago as the trees were dead, but it has not been touched, but it has been jealously guarded by the city, and anyone touching the wood has been threatened with arrest, at least according to the story told by its caretaker.

Eight Soldier Grandsons Send Cablegram to Mrs. James Vokes. Eight grandsons of Mrs. James Vokes, 389 Manning Ave., are serving their country overseas. She received the following cablegram from them a few days ago: "God bless you, Jan. 12—Kindly accept our sincere congratulations, also best New Year's greetings: Arthur, Ted, Russell, Vic, Bill, Frank, Carlys, Arnold." Mrs. Vokes, who is in her 87th year, is a Britisher and very proud of her grandsons and their cable messages to her.

TWO LOST ON ANDANIA.

London, Jan. 28.—The Cunard Line, owners of the Andania, say that two members of the crew of the steamer were lost when the vessel was torpedoed.

RUSSIA BREAKS WITH RUMANIA

All Rumanian Representatives Will Be Sent Out of the Country By Shortest Route.

Petrograd, Jan. 28.—The government commissioners announce that diplomatic relations with Rumania have been broken and that the Rumanian legation and all the Rumanian representatives here will be sent out of the country by the shortest route.

FINNS IN THROES OF REVOLUTION

Russian Red Guard Has Occupied Helsingfors Station.

COMMANDED BY GUNS

Bolshevik Paper Admits That the Soldiers Have Got Out of Hand.

Stockholm, Jan. 28.—The long threatened revolution in Finland has begun in the eastern provinces, according to sparse reports reaching Helsingfors. The red guard is reported to have occupied the railway station at Helsingfors, all the foreign consuls have left the capital and sharp fighting is reported around and in Viborg.

The red guard is holding Rikimäki and other important junctions, Russian soldiers are aiding the reds and reinforcements are coming from Petrograd. The Finnish minister in Petrograd has protested to the workmen's and soldiers' delegates against Russian interference in Finnish affairs. He received a reply that "Kassava's Government" further declares its duty bound to support the proletarian in Finland in its battle against the "russian bourgeoisie".

The forces of law and order in Helsingfors are powerless, because the city is commanded by the guns of Russian warships, which are in the hands of Bolshevik sailors. The commandant of the fleet summoned the city's authorities, including President Sivunhuu, and the Socialist leaders, to his ship Saturday, and demanded that the government white guard be immediately disbanded. He threatened to level the city to the ground if the order was disobeyed.

FRENCH PENETRATE TO THIRD FOE LINE. Allies Carry Out Operations Against Germans in Champagne. Paris, Jan. 28.—The war office announcement tonight says: "In Champagne we trenches. Our detachments penetrated as far as the third enemy line, bringing back prisoners, one of them an officer, and one machine gun."

WANT WOMAN SUFFRAGE. Albany, N.Y., Jan. 28.—After an outburst of oratory which has not been equaled this season the assembly of the New York Legislature tonight, by a vote of 72 to 17, adopted a resolution petitioning the United States Senate to act favorably on the suffrage amendment to the federal constitution.

DINEEN'S BARGAIN FURS. Regular prices have been disregarded in Dineen's selling event. Furs and women's wear are reduced to actual cost in order to stimulate quick selling. Visit the store early while there is a wide range of choice for your selection. Dineen's, 140 Yonge Street.

BLIZZARDS UP SERGE ON ALL RAILWAYS

Transportation is Much Affected by Snowstorm and High Wind.

DELIVERIES DELAYED

Milk and Bread Supplied, But May Be Scarce Today.

Toronto was again in the grip of a blizzard yesterday. Late on Sunday night a light snow began to fall. In the early morning the wind freshened, and by daybreak the snow was swirling everywhere. The temperature was low, but the storm was not so severe as that of a few weeks ago. The atmosphere was damp, and this made the weather a little more raw, but the temperature was not so low.

SECOND SHUT-DOWN NOT NECESSARY. But Blizzard Worries Officials of Fuel and Railroad Administrations. EXPORT FOODSTUFFS. Order Issued Permitting Rushing of Trains to Atlantic Ports.

Washington, Jan. 28.—In the face of blizzards which completely stopped traffic on many eastern railroads today, the handling of sufficient coal for homes and important war industries in the eastern half of the country became a more serious problem than at any time this winter.

ARABS BEGIN DRIVE ON TURKS IN SYRIA. Allies Engage in Two Days' Fighting at Maan—Destroy Railway. London, Jan. 28.—Further particulars of the operations by the Arabs of the king of the Hejaz in the past few days, says an official statement tonight, "show that several miles of track on the Hejaz railway were destroyed and heavy losses inflicted on the Turkish posts south of Maan (Syria) in two days' fighting. The Arabs subsequently withdrew with few losses."

CUBA GRANTS AMNESTY TO CIVILIAN REBELS. Havana, Jan. 28.—With the Liberals absenting themselves from the chamber of representatives in regular session, even so, passed a bill granting amnesty to all civilians who took part in the Liberal revolution of February, 1917. Fifty representatives were present, voting unanimously for the resolution, which has the support of President Menocal. Among those who would be liberated under the bill, it is reported, are former president Jose Miguel Gomez and his son.

FAVORABLE PATROL ENCOUNTERS FOUGHT BY ITALIAN DETACHMENTS. Rome, Jan. 28.—The war office communique issued today says: "There have been patrol encounters which were favorable to us in the Vallara and the Astig valley. There was a successful action by our artillery against enemy positions between the Francella Valley and the Brenta Canal. Lively aerial activity has taken place on the whole of the front."

TWO AIR RAIDS ON LONDON ONE MACHINE BROUGHT DOWN

Half a Million U. S. Troops In France Early This Year. Million More Will Be Trained and Equipped Ready to Follow as Quick as Ships Can Carry Them.

Washington, Jan. 28.—America will have an army of half a million men in France early this year, with a million more trained and equipped ready to follow as quickly as ships can be provided to carry them—and the outlook for ships is not unpromising.

Secretary of War Baker gave this information to the nation and to the world today in a statement before the senate military committee, baring much that until now has been carefully guarded with the army's military secrets, in answering charges that the government has broken down preparing for war.

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FOOD RIOTS IN CRACOW PARALYZE AUTHORITIES. Thousands of Women and Children Parade Streets—Martial Law Proclaimed. Washington, Jan. 28.—Food riots in the City of Cracow, Poland, have become so serious, said an official despatch today from Switzerland, that the authorities have appealed to the Austrian prime minister for aid in quelling the disturbances. Martial law has been proclaimed and the hours of public eating houses curtailed. Thousands of women and children are reported parading the streets daily demanding food.

BRITISH SHOOT DOWN THIRTY-SEVEN MACHINES. Active Aerial Operations Proceed on Italian Front Against Enemy. London, Jan. 28.—The war office today issued a statement on the operations of the British forces in Italy. It says: "Owing to better visibility recently our artillery has carried out much successful counter-battery work and bombardment."

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FRENCH TRANSPORT SINKS IN MINEFIELD. Forty Lives Lost on Drome and Trawler Off Marseilles. Paris, Jan. 28.—Forty lives were lost through the sinking of the French transport Drome and the trawler Kerbihan, which struck mines Jan. 23, within sight of Marseilles. The Drome first came into contact with a mine, and the Kerbihan shortly afterwards struck another near the same place.

TIE-UP AT BELLEVILLE. Belleville, Jan. 28.—A blizzard struck this city and vicinity this afternoon, and in consequence the railways are tied up to a considerable degree. Both the 10 o'clock and the 10.50 C.P.R. trains from this city to Toronto were cancelled tonight, but the Grand Trunk trains left for Toronto. A party of 25 aviators who had been booked for Toronto on the C.P.R. were transferred to the Grand Trunk. The chief trouble on the C.P.R. was between Smith's Falls and Toronto, it was stated here tonight. Most of the trains arriving here today and tonight were late. Local traffic was not much affected by the storm or the cold weather.

TRAINS LATE AT MONTREAL. Two Canadian Pacific Trains to Toronto Were Cancelled. Montreal, Jan. 28.—This city and district escaped the worst of the storm, but the railway service was affected to a considerable degree. Both the 10 o'clock and the 10.50 C.P.R. trains from this city to Toronto were cancelled tonight, but the Grand Trunk trains left for Toronto. A party of 25 aviators who had been booked for Toronto on the C.P.R. were transferred to the Grand Trunk. The chief trouble on the C.P.R. was between Smith's Falls and Toronto, it was stated here tonight. Most of the trains arriving here today and tonight were late. Local traffic was not much affected by the storm or the cold weather.

THE STORM AT OTTAWA. Ottawa, Jan. 28.—The outgoing night train tonight over the C. P. R. and C. N. I. was cancelled and all freight service is suspended. The street railway managed to keep an infrequent service going. Four below was the warmest today and the mercury was at 18 below early tonight.