

THE WEATHER.

Maritime—Mostly cloudy and mild, some light local snow or rain.

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FRENCH AND BRITISH BIG GUNS IN THE WEST CONTINUE TO HAMMER THE GERMAN POSITIONS

MASTERLY SPEECH BY SIR GEORGE E. FOSTER

Minister of Trade and Commerce Deals Effectively With A. K. MacLean's Feeble Attempt to Find Flaws in Sir Thomas White's Budget—Canada Must Prepare to Face Period of Readjustment After War, Sir George Declares, but with New Spirit of Self-Reliance Born Since War Began Dominion Will Face it Confidently.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Feb. 17.—There was an unusual scene in the Canadian Commons tonight when Sir George Foster reached the end of a speech...

Sir George has still the broad outlook of the great statesman, and no man can sway an audience as he can. He told the House tonight of the two lessons which Great Britain had learned...

War Made Canada More Self-Reliant. Canada had been developed by the war. The struggle had melted out many of her germs, and they

GIVES BRITISH PEOPLE THEIR FIRST LESSON IN ECONOMY

War Savings Committee Sends Out Appeal Showing How Resources and Labor Can Be Husbanded to Nation's Benefit.

London, Feb. 17, 7.15 p. m.—The government's war savings committee issued today the first of a series of appeals in which it will point out to the people of the country...

The first appeal deals with the use of automobiles and motor-cycles for pleasure. "If this form of selfish, thoughtless extravagance is stopped," says the appeal, "millions of pounds will be saved and many workers transferred to more useful channels."

"We cannot see the poorer classes to save as long as they see the well-to-do enjoying such expensive luxury."

CONQUEST OF THE KAMERUN COMPLETE

Only One Isolated Position Left in Enemy's Lands — German Commandant Escapes Into Spanish Territory — 2nd South African Brigade Get First Experience in Bush Fighting.

London, Feb. 17.—The British official statement issued tonight on the African campaign says: "The general officer commanding the British forces in East Africa states that on the 12th inst. a reconnaissance in force was carried out against Salaita Hill to locate the enemy's position and ascertain his strength."

Conquest of Kamerun Complete. London, Feb. 17.—The following official communication referring to the operations in the Kamerun region of Africa was issued tonight: "A telegram, dated Feb. 16, from Gen. Döbel (the French commander-in-chief) states that he has received information from Gen. Armerich that the French have closed the frontier up to N'gora and all east thereof."

BERLIN ADMITS "U" COMMANDER BLUNDERED

Has Been Dealt With for Sinking Dutch Steamer and German Government Offers Indemnity.

The Hague, via London, Feb. 17.—Germany has notified the Dutch government that the investigation of the Artemis incident has established that the torpedoing of this vessel was a blunder on the part of the commander of the German torpedo boat.

TWO 26TH MEN IN CASUALTIES

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—The midnight casualty list, includes the names Thomas Bell, of England, and John Roberts, both members of the 26th; and Angus McNeil of the 26th among the wounded.

Twenty-Sixth Battalion Wounded—Thomas Bell, England; John Roberts, Allston, Mass.

THE DAY'S WAR NEWS AS TOLD BY OFFICIAL REPORTS

British Report. London, Feb. 17.—The British official statement on the campaign in the western zone, issued tonight, says: "Early this morning the enemy sprung two mines, one near Fosse, the other south of Loos. After the explosion of the latter the enemy attempted to occupy the crater, but was driven off by our fire."

French Statement. Paris, Feb. 17, via London.—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight: "In Belgium destructive fires were directed against the German organizations in the direction of Steenstraete and in front of Boesinghe."

Russian Report. Petrograd, Feb. 17, via London, Feb. 18.—The following official statement was issued tonight: "Caucasian front: It has been learned further that twenty-five more guns have been seized in the Erzerum first line forts and that thirty-nine officers and 1,415 men were taken prisoners in the region of Port Taht, twenty vessels from Erzerum."

PROHIBITION FORCES ON THE NORTH SHORE ORGANIZE FOR CAMPAIGN

Newcastle, Feb. 17.—At a rousing temperance public meeting last night Rev. R. H. Stavert, of Norton, presiding, preliminary steps were taken to form a branch of the Temperance Alliance and get ready for the prohibition campaign.

NEWFOUNDLAND WANTS TO SEND DOUBLE NUMBER

St. John's, Nfld., Feb. 17.—Plans for a campaign to double Newfoundland's complement of soldiers and sailors in active war service were completed tonight. So far 1,200 naval reservists and 2,000 soldiers have been enlisted and sent to England.

ATTACK GOV'T FOR SHORTAGE OF SHIPPING

Mismanagement in Control of Mercantile Marine Claimed.

BIGGEST ECONOMIC PROBLEM OF THE DAY.

"Trying to Put Quart Into Pint." Whole Difficulty, Runciman Replies.

London, Feb. 17.—The government against itself on the defensive in the House of Commons today. Yesterday the subject was air raids, today it was the control of merchant shipping.

"The shipping difficulties of the present time are due not to mismanagement but to our trying to pour a quart into a pint pot. This and nothing else. The general upward tendency of ocean freights is caused by the fact that the merchant marine which is limited in size, has to carry out a task far greater than in times of peace."

HOLLAND STILL ANXIOUS OVER FLOODS

Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 17.—The flood situation continues to cause the gravest anxiety, although the dykes at critical points have all held thus far.

PROHIBITION FOR HALIFAX?

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 17.—After the House of Assembly had concluded the debate on the address this afternoon Howard W. Corning, M. P. P. asked Premier Murray whether it was the intention of the government to bring down a bill this session extending the provisions of Nova Scotia prohibition act to the city of Halifax in March of this year.

FIGHTING WAS TERRIFIC BEFORE ERZERUM FELL

Estimated Turkish Troops in Garrison When it Was Taken Numbered 100,000—No Important Changes in Western Theatre.

SWEDEN WANTS U.S. TO JOIN IN PROTEST

With Other Neutrals for Protection of Commerce and Navigation—Holding Up of Mail by Britain Particular Sore Point.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Another note from Sweden has been addressed to the State Department, through Minister Ekengren, appealing to the United States for co-operation with the Swedish government and other neutral nations to maintain the preservation of rules of international law concerning the protection of neutral commerce and navigation.

Secretary of State Lansing informed the minister, it was learned today that he could not answer the note until the controversy with Germany over the Lusitania case was settled.

This latest communication addressed to Secretary Lansing, and signed by Mr. Ekengren, was presented recently after such a proposal had been advanced and discussed from time to time but until today the fact did not become known.

PROHIBITION FOR HALIFAX?

Dykes at Critical Points Still Hold, But Situation Continues Serious.

Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 17.—The flood situation continues to cause the gravest anxiety, although the dykes at critical points have all held thus far.

Soldiers Entertained. The Girls' Social Club of St. Jude's entertained the Church of England boys of the 140th last evening, in the coming into Amsterdam. Farmers, laborers and soldiers are busy strengthening the weak spots in the dykes.

Queen Wilhelmina today travelled from Amsterdam to Alkmaar on an inspection trip. The inhabitants of the districts around Amsterdam show signs of leaving and many who during the previous flood remained in their houses are now coming into Amsterdam.