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The Toronto World

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VOL. XXXVIII—No. 43,576 TWO CENTS

BRITISH WAR REMNANTS OF GERMAN FORCE OUT OF E. AFRICA

Berlin Declares Year's Toll Taken of Shipping by Subs Will Amount to Ten Million Tons

AMERICA MUST RUSH MEN OVER TO WAR FRONTS

Winston Churchill States Need of Hastening U. S. Reinforcements. AMERICA BIG FACTOR

Anglo-Saxon Democracies to Win Triumph for World Freedom.

London, Jan. 11.—Winston Spencer Churchill, British minister of munitions, in addressing the American Luncheon Club today, began his remarks with a plea of support from the American and British nations of their leaders. He also made a powerful appeal for the prompt sending of large numbers of American soldiers to Europe.

"I have accepted the invitation of the American Luncheon Club," Mr. Churchill said in beginning, "for two principal reasons. First, that we have arrived at the main crisis of the war; secondly, that the great issues of this war can only be satisfactorily solved by vehement and effective action of the United States as a factor in the conflict. It is a very happy thing that at the present moment two Anglo-Saxon democracies should each have found a leader who, by the march of events and their own great qualities, have so far surpassed their contemporaries as to acquire the right and the power to speak without challenge in the names of the nations as a whole. They also command that paramount authority without the responsibility of which and without the fortitude of which no safe or sure path can be found or followed. Co-operation Required. "May every man here stand across the Atlantic who desires that we may meet our present peril do his utmost to strengthen and sustain the authority of the men at the helm. May they encourage them in their responsibility and free them from embarrassment so they may concentrate their whole energy on the deadly enemy in front and have no distractions or jealousies at home. May they be free from every cause of distraction and devote themselves to the selection and the seizing of the essential points of the war." (Concluded on Page 2, Column 3).

NO CONSCRIPTION OF LABOR AS YET

Premier Announces That No Decision is Arrived at by the Cabinet.

A MISTAKEN IDEA

Arose From Suggestion Made by Col. Mewburn During the Election.

Special to The Toronto World. Ottawa, Jan. 11.—The suggestion of General S. C. Mewburn, minister of militia and defence, made during the elective campaign that alien enemy labor in Canada be conscripted, has apparently failed to commend itself to the minister's colleagues. A statement issued from the prime minister's office, this evening, emphatically declares that the government has no intention of taking any such action.

General Mewburn's suggestion that alien should be conscripted for essential industries was made in the course of an address to the Unionist convention which nominated him at Hamilton. Later General Mewburn amplified his suggestion and fixed the wages which should be paid conscripted aliens at the rate given private in the Canadian forces. However, the statement issued from the prime minister's office, this evening, says: "Any reports which have appeared in the press respecting the question of the conscription of any class of labor for any purpose whatsoever are entirely without foundation. The government as yet has not had an opportunity to give the matter any deliberate consideration, and for this reason the statements which have been appearing in the newspapers are misleading and erroneous. In the very near future the labor problem which confronts all industries in Canada, and particularly agriculture, will be comparatively reviewed by the government with a view to devising ways and means whereby the available labor of the country may be utilized to the fullest possible extent for all such industries as are essential to Canada's war efforts."

GENERAL ELECTION IN ENGLAND

In some respects the British Government is much more democratic than that of the United States. This is illustrated by the passage of the woman's suffrage measure by the house of lords, while congress is just able to slip it thru the house by whipping up the sick and crippled, while the senate is still doubtful; and beyond these lie the state legislatures, a more difficult barrier than the house of lords.

The great point is that woman's suffrage is on the way. The prime minister has pledged his word to it for Canada, and the fact, conveyed to President Wilson by the governor-general, elicited an official boost for the measure in congress. Women are going to vote. They are going to bring their intelligence to bear on social problems.

In England a general election is evidently on the way. The British Weekly, which is always well informed, accepts the view of its necessity, and joins in warning Lloyd George of his danger. "What is intolerable," it remarks, "is the idea that a general election can be taken on the present register of voters." This, chiefly, on account of the enfranchisement of women. The election will be a temperance election. If state purchase is forced thru before the election, the W. W. looks for the defeat of the government and the repeal of the measure. The reports of the brewery companies for the year show profits rising to 300 per cent. This in one company was for ordinary stock, the preferred paying 650 per cent. Another paid 600 per cent. It has been shown that while the submarines sink two per cent. of the grain supplies, the brewers take ten per cent. These are the facts relied on by the prohibitionists.

EIGHTEEN CANADIANS DECORATED FOR VALOR

One Corporal Attacks and Captures German Guns—Other Daring Soldiers Carry Pill-Boxes—Several Victoria Crosses.

London, Jan. 11.—Graphic descriptions of Canadian heroism in France were given today when 18 Canadians were decorated for bravery. How Capt. J. O'Kelly advanced his command 1000 yards after the original attack failed, took two enemy positions on the crest of the hill under a heavy fire and personally organized and led attacks against "pill-boxes," capturing six with 100 prisoners and 10 machine guns, was graphically gasetted. Another hero was Corporal Colin Barron, who, single-handed rushed enemy guns, killed four of the crew and captured the others and then turned the captured guns on the retreating enemy, causing severe casualties. Sergt. Geo. H. Mullin captured a "pill-box" single-handed, rushed a sniper's post in front of him, destroyed the captured guns on the retreating enemy, causing severe casualties. Sergt. C. E. Spackman of the Border Regiment, and Corporal R. McBeath, of the Seaforth Highlanders, also were awarded the Victoria Cross for capturing enemy machine guns together with their crews. McBeath put five machine guns out of action, capturing an officer and 30 men who had taken refuge in a dugout. A trooper of the Indian Cavalry was decorated for thrice carrying despatches over open ground and under a heavy fire, and, each time his horse was shot under him.

BRITISH PURSUE ENEMY IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA

Mounted Troops Follow Up German Column Retreating Near Lake Nyassa—Enemy Force Splits Up Into Small Bands.

London, Jan. 11.—Dealing with the course of the operations in East Africa during the past month, an official communication issued today says: "Having entered Portuguese territory at Ngomano as a small exhausted force, short of food and ammunition, a German column under Gen. von Lotztorbeck moved up the Lujuenda Valley, capturing several small isolated Portuguese posts, subsequently dispersing in scattered groups and raiding parties over the whole country between Mwenbe, near Lake Nyassa, and the coast in the vicinity of Port Amelia. British mounted troops followed up the Lujuenda Valley, while other columns acting in co-operation with the Portuguese, disembarked at Port Amelia and advanced east and northeast from the southern end of Lake Nyassa. "Patrol encounters have occurred during the past few days in the Mwenbe area, where an enemy detachment has been located."

FOE TRENCHES DESTROYED BY ITALIAN ARTILLERY

Austro-German Troops Moved Down By Machine Gun Fire As They Beat Retreat.

London, Jan. 11.—On the fighting fronts there is only slight activity, except by the artilleries. Several trench-raiding operations have been carried out on the western front by the French in the Argonne Forest and Vosges Mountain sectors, in which German prisoners were taken. "Notwithstanding the deep snow on the northern Italian front, the Italian guns have been active near Cavazzurina, in the hill region, demolishing Austro-German trenches and forcing the enemy to evacuate them. The Italian machine guns worked havoc among the enemy as they endeavored to retire.

COON SKIN COATS.

The largest and best assorted display of Coon Skin Coats in Toronto—regular \$150 value for \$120. And so the reductions run, growing more attractive as the prices advance in the more expensive coats. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.



Some during the funeral of the late Flight-Lieut. W. G. Coutts in Toronto yesterday afternoon. Flight-Lieut. Coutts met his death when he fell with his airplane at Stockbridge, Eng. His body was brought back to his native land for burial. The funeral took place from his father's residence, 65 Gothic avenue, to Park Lawn Cemetery.

FOE MAINTAINS OFFER OF PEACE TO RUSS NATION

Teutons, However, Won't Extend Same Terms to Other Allies.

CONFERENCE STILL ON

Lenine Refuses to Make Any Concessions to Central Powers.

London, Jan. 11.—With fighting still at a low ebb on all the battle-fronts, the chief political issue—the negotiations between the central powers and Russia—remains the absorbing point in interest in the world war. Chaotic indeed is the situation surrounding these negotiations, due to the fact that nothing but contradictory reports of her proceedings have come thru for publication. That peace again has been discussed, as far as Russia's allies are concerned, their peace proposals of December 25 of "no forcible annexations or indemnities, which were conditional on Great Britain, France, the United States and other enemy powers participating in the peace parleys. The refusal of these powers to be drawn into the Teutonic net is given as the reason for the Austro-German delegates recanting. "But Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, told the Bolshevik delegates that the door has not been closed to the Russians, and that the situation now had resolved itself into a question of a separate peace between Russia and the central powers. The seeming ultimatum of the representatives of the enemy powers was taken under advisement, and the meeting was adjourned. Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik premier, apparently is maintaining his previous attitude of unwillingness to concede any points to the enemy, and has re-asserted that unless the central powers accept the Bolshevik proposals, the Bolsheviks will declare war on them. He also has declared himself in favor of stopping demobilization and preparing for war.

NATIONALIST PARTY IS TRUE TO HUGHES

Loyalty of Colleagues Restored Australian Premier to Power.

CONSCRIPTION VOTE

Majority Against Compulsory Service is Announced as 165,000.

Melbourne, Australia, Jan. 11.—(Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—The governor-general has issued a statement giving reasons why he re-commissioned Hon. Wm. Hughes. He states that in advance of the Nationalist defeat in parliament he endeavored to ascertain the situation by seeking information of all sections of representatives with a view to avoiding dissolution, and decided that the majority of Nationalists was likely to retain cohesion and would be able to establish a stable government under Mr. Hughes. The final vote on the conscription poll follows: Yes, 1,013,000; no, 1,178,000. The soldiers' vote gave a small "Yes" majority. States in favor included: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania. Further organized efforts are being made to secure recruits voluntarily. Substantial increases in pay went into effect in the Australian navy on Jan. 1. Speaking in the house of representatives, Premier Hughes said the government's one desire was to spend all the energies of Australia to do its duty in the war.

BISHOP OF FREDERICTON PRAISES CARE FOR TROOPS

Canadian Associated Press Cable. London, Jan. 12.—The Bishop of Fredericton, after visiting the troops on behalf of the Canadian church, tells the Canadian Associated Press that he is most vividly impressed with the care taken for the men's welfare. He has seen thru the main hospitals. He speaks of the high organization of the chaplain service. The bishop accompanied a party of permanent units, and speaks very highly of the discharge depot. The bishop returns in five weeks' time after visiting the front.

"WAR BREAD" FOR CANADA.

Calgary, Jan. 11.—An article is published by The News-Telegram today to the effect that war bread will be an obligatory food in Canada within the next fortnight.

TEN MILLION TONS TOLL OF U-BOATS IN ONE YEAR

DECLARES ARMISTICE WOULD BE PARALYZING

Von Tirpitz Wants U-Boats to Operate Unhindered—Says Germany Doesn't Need Belgium.

London, Jan. 11.—Germany is depending upon her U-boats to defeat the American menace and bring about peace, declares the Berlin Tageblatt, a copy of which has been received here. "The entire entente hopes," says this newspaper, "are now based on the expected help from the United States. Whether the Americans will be able to provide a fighting army in numbers sufficient to bring about a decision, whether they will be able to furnish sufficient ships for the transport of the army, and whether they will then be able to provide the necessary supplies of food and war materials are questions upon which opinion is divided. But there is no doubt that the efforts of the Americans are making must be taken seriously. The hope of an early peace depends almost entirely on the efficacy of our submarine weapon." "Reviewing the first year of Germany's ruthless submarine campaign, which ends Feb. 1, The Tageblatt asserts that the central powers have succeeded in completely upsetting the economic life of the entente, and adds that the submarine campaign, which has now become the principal factor in naval warfare, is being expanded and developed still further. "Summarizing the results of the underwater campaign since Feb. 1, The Tageblatt claims that U-boats have sunk on an average 821,000 tons of shipping monthly from February to December, and for the whole year the toll may be expected to show nearly ten million tons, and that the building of new ships by the entente and neutrals during the year will replace only between 3,500,000 and 4,000,000 tons of these losses. The newspaper says the monetary loss to Germany's enemies as the result of the year's operations will reach \$5,000,000,000, figuring the value of the ships at \$250 per ton and the cargoes at the same amount.

UKRAINIANS OPEN WAR AGAINST BOLSHEVIKI

Fighting Lasting Several Hours Results in Defeat for Anarchists.

Petrograd, Jan. 11.—Fighting lasting seven hours has taken place between Maximilian and Ukrainian troops near Ratchnatch, in the Government of Tchernigov, after severe fighting. The fighting is said to have resulted in severe casualties.

RACHMATCH TAKEN.

London, Jan. 11.—A Reuter's Limited despatch from Petrograd says it is reported there that Ukrainian troops have occupied Ratchnatch, in the Government of Tchernigov, after severe fighting. Boling, according to advices received here, the fighting is said to have resulted in severe casualties.

BRITISH BOMB COURTRAI

Drop Two Tons of Explosives on German Positions in West. London, Jan. 11.—The British official communication dealing with aviation issued this evening says: "Nearly two tons of bombs were dropped Thursday on an ammunition depot in the vicinity of Courtrai and other targets. "One enemy machine was driven down out of control. One of our machines is missing."

COAL PROBLEM IS MOSTLY DUE TO NEGLIGENCE

Warnings Sounded by Commissioners Not Heeded by Authorities.

SHORTAGE PREDICTED

Remedy Suggested in Good Time, But Not Availed of.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—That the present scarcity of coal was anticipated nearly three months ago in the offices of the commissioner investigating the high cost of living and measures to meet it advised, is indicated by a report to Hon. T. W. Crothers by W. F. O'Connor, K.C., commissioner on cost of living, which was made public today. The report, which deals with the period from April to October, 1917, "the first six months of the coal year," states that during this time there was a great deal more anthracite imported into Canada than was the case in the previous year, and probably more than had ever been imported into the Dominion during a similar period. The report goes on to say: "Under these circumstances it might be thought that the coal situation should be most satisfactory indeed, and that there would be no trouble experienced this coming winter. While this had been the case, yet owing to indiscriminate distribution there is likely to be a great deal of inconvenience experienced, more especially in small communities, where, owing to the scramble for coal in large centres, they have been practically overlooked. This situation ought to be taken care of and the wants supplied, at least partially, at once, if not thru the producers direct, at least thru the large wholesalers.

"Panic Caused Shortage. "Again, owing to the panicky feeling of buyers in the large cities, more consumers have had their full orders supplied than has ever before been the case, which has placed the balance—even the a greater tonnage than ordinary—on the wrong side of the scale, and as a consequence, while in our large centres a greater tonnage has been received than ever before, it is practically all in the hands of a few dealers, and the coal dealers have very little, if any, in store. This, of course, means that from now on—with the balance of the coal received—great care will have to be exercised." (Concluded on Page 2, Column 7).

BRITAIN SAVIOR OF HUMAN RACE

Baron Ito of Japan Pays Tribute to British Sacrifices.

GUESTS AT OTTAWA

Canadian Part in War Receives Laudation From Tokio Mission.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—Baron Ito and Dr. Hishida, members of a special Japanese finance mission to the United States, met members of the Dominion Government at a dinner given in their honor by Yasuzaru Numano, Japanese consul-general for Canada, at the Chateau Laurier tonight. Among the guests of the evening were Sir Thomas White, minister of finance; Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, chief justice of the supreme court; Hon. F. B. Carroll, minister of public works; Hon. J. A. Calder, minister of immigration and colonization; Hon. Arthur Meighen, minister of the interior; Hon. Martin Burrell, secretary of state; Hon. A. K. Maclean, minister without portfolio, and Hon. Justice Duff.

Baron Ito paid a tribute to the part the British Empire has played in the war. "I firmly believe," he said, "that when the history of the war is written generations yet unborn will turn to the British Empire and hail her as the savior of the human race." Speaking of the part Canada had played in the war, the baron said that "one of the most notable things in connection with the war has been the manner in which the spirit of Canada has risen to the help of the mother country." Touching upon his own country, Baron Ito said that Japan was a nation dominated by sincerity and a sense of justice. He described the Anglo-Japanese alliance as the "marrow of far eastern peace."