

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Official Organ of The Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland.

Vol. I. No. 279.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1914.

Price:—1 cent.

Opposition Censure Liberal Government For The Adjournment

Bonar Law and His Colleagues Claim House of Commons Should Hold Practically Continuous Sessions

TO ACT AS BRAKE ON THE CABINET

Says Opposition Has Given Government Wholehearted Support in War Measures—Too Acquiescent?

London, Dec. 15.—The determination of the House of Commons not to sit again till Feb. 2, has excited considerable adverse criticism, while the decision of the House of Lords to reconvene on Jan. 6th is praised by the critics who maintain that both Houses should sit intermittently for the purpose of keeping an eye on the Government.

Long sittings would not be necessary, according to these critics, as there is no question of Legislature and Finance immediately impending, and the sole duty of the House under prevailing conditions would be to keep an eye on the Cabinet, which, with the aid of the Defence of the Realm Act, is in a position of almost arbitrary power.

Lords Take Action

The situation will be somewhat saved by the earlier sitting of the House of Lords, an unprecedented thing under normal conditions, but with party discord buried, the Lords, ought to provide as effective a brake for the impetuosity of the Cabinet as the Commons.

A letter sent by Mr. Bonar Law and the Marquis of Lansdowne, Unionist leader in the Commons and the Lords, respectively, to the Prime Minister, on Sunday, Aug. 2, when the decision of the Government whether to participate in war or not was doubtful, was read by Bonar Law to a meeting of Unionist chairmen and agents to-day. This letter follows:

Supported Declaration of War "Lord Lansdowne and I feel it our duty to inform you that in our opinion as well as in that of all our colleagues whom we have been able to consult, it would be fatal to the honor

and security of the United Kingdom to hesitate in supporting France and Russia at the present juncture.

"We offer our unhesitating support to the Government in any measures they may consider necessary for that object."

After reading the contents of the letter, Mr. Bonar Law, in a speech, said:

United the Nation "Before the war, party passions were inflamed to such an extent that I saw no possible outlet which would not be disastrous to the country. In a moment the whole situation changed. In our country there is no single instance since Parliamentary Government was introduced where a Government engaged in conducting a war has not been hampered and harassed by the action of the Opposition.

That was true in Marlborough's time; it was still more emphatically true in the struggle against Napoleon: it was true of the last war in which this country was engaged.

Were Too Acquiescent? "I think it is quite possible we have made the mistake, not of criticising the Government too much, but of criticising it too little, but if a mistake had to be made I prefer that it were made in that direction."

"Bonar Law said that after the four months since the beginning of the war he could look forward to the future with hope and complete confidence.

"Germany," he said, "has failed. They have not crushed France; they cannot crush France. Already Russian armies are on their frontiers. We have a terrible struggle in front of us but the final result is not in doubt. The greatest honor which can come for upon us as a Party will be that when this war is over we can truthfully say that we did nothing common, or mean upon that memorable scene."

Sixteen Cargoes Of German Wheat Held Up By Dutch

London, Dec. 15.—The Chronicle's Amsterdam correspondent says that sixteen vessels containing grain which the Germans sent from Antwerp have been detained by the Dutch at Hanswert at the North River of the Scheldt.

Germany Calls All Reserves To The Colors

Landsturm, Organized for Home Defence Must now go to the Front.

Copenhagen, Dec. 11.—Germany is finding events on the east front developing far too rapidly. The General Staff considers the situation over the whole battlefield so serious that they have recommended calling up more men. An order of the Kaiser has therefore been posted in all towns of Germany, announcing that the second ban of the Landsturm must be ready for active service on the 20th inst.

To allay the depression, the General Staff is doing everything to maintain the hero-worship of Genl. von Hindenburg. The authorities of Arzbe in Silesia have unanimously resolved to change the name of the place to Hindenburg, and the General's consent has been obtained by wire.

The Landsturm, which was established purely for home defence, has an estimated strength of nearly 700,000 men. The first line consists of all men between the ages of seventeen and thirty-nine, who have for one reason or another received no military training. The second consists of all, trained or untrained, between thirty-nine and forty-five.

How Germans View British Naval Success

"Our Losses Great They Say," But Sunken Ships Had Done Great Work.

Berlin, via London, Dec. 11.—In a statement issued today, the German admiralty makes this comment on the British naval victory in the South Atlantic off the Falkland Islands:

"The British admiralty does not say in its statement of the battle that our squadron had been on the high seas for four months without means of communication, either cable or otherwise, and had been without any port where it could put in for repairs or supplies, despite this, it always obtained coal."

In its official statement the admiralty reproduced the communication of the board of admiralty regarding the sinking of the German cruisers and added: "Our losses seem to have been great. Concerning the strength of the enemy, whose losses are reported to be small, the flagstaff despatches say nothing."

Prospero left Change Islands at 8.30 a.m.

Portia left St. Jacques at 8 a.m. She was there all night.

DRESDEN ESCAPES AND SEEKS REFUGE IN PUNTA ARENAS

Washington, Dec. 14.—American Consul Latham at Punta Arenas, cabled the State Department to-day that the German cruiser Dresden had arrived there early today, safely, and was uninjured.

Buenos Ayres, Nov. 14.—The Minister of Marine has been informed that two British warships have entered the Straits of Magellan in pursuit of the German cruiser Dresden, which has taken refuge at Punta Arenas.

All Attacks Are Repulsed

French Hold Back Enemy and Advance Their Lines in Places.

(French Official Bulletin.)

Paris, Dec. 14.—In Belgium several attacks by the French troops have resulted in progress along the Ypres canal and to the west of Hollebeke. Several violent counter attacks have all been repulsed by our troops. The railway station of Colleer (Dept. of the Meuse) was bombarded yesterday by batteries firing from a very great distance, but insignificant damage was done.

In Alsace an offensive movement by the enemy to the northwest of Cernay was repulsed.

On the west front there is nothing to report.

Servian Forces Reoccupy Beigrade

London, Dec. 14.—The Servians after a fierce battle, have reoccupied Beigrade, according to a Nish despatch to Reuters Tel. Co.

ENDS CAREER OF 2 RAIDERS

Tokio, Dec. 15.—It is reported here that the German armed merchantman Oxford has been captured by the British in the Indian Ocean and that the German converted cruiser Cormorant has entered the harbor of Gualin in the Ladrones Archipelago.

Broke Her Arm

Mrs. Clemens, of York St., was taken to the Hospital in the ambulance this morning. She met with an accident by falling in her cellar and broke her right arm.

Russians Inflict Enormous Losses On Enemy In East

South of Cracow, 4 Guns, 7 Machine Guns and 4,000 Prisoners Captured Thursday.

(British Official Bulletin.)

London, Dec. 14.—The British submarine B. 11, yesterday entered the Dardanelles, and despite the difficult current, dived under five rows of mines, torpedoed the Turkish battleship Messudiyeh, and returned safely. The Messudiyeh was last seen sinking by the stern.

The enemy has evacuated the west bank of the Yser Canal. Three violent infantry attacks were made by the enemy South East of Ypres, but they were repulsed.

The Russians have captured the enemy's positions in the region of Przasnysz and Ciechanow. Enormous losses were inflicted on the enemy. In the region of Ilowo and Lowicz, South of Cracow, 4 guns, 7 machine guns and 4,000 prisoners were captured on Thursday.

Vancouver Bank Out of Business

Vancouver, Dec. 15.—Announcement was made last night by the Directors of the Bank of Vancouver that they had been obliged to suspend payment. The Directors are confident the depositors will be paid in full as the assets are ample.

War Was Not People's Wish

Says Socialist Member of Reichstag, Voting Against War Credit

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 10.—Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the socialist member of the Reichstag, who was the only member to vote against the war credit at the recent session of the Reichstag, explains his action in an article just published in Berlin.

He says: "This war was not desired by any of the peoples affected, nor was it kindled to promote the welfare of the Germans or any other people. It was created by the common action of the German and Austrian war parties in the obscurity of semi-absolutism and secret diplomacy, in order to anticipate their adversaries. At the same time, the war is a Napoleonic attempt to unnerve and crush the growing labor movement."

S.S. Pelican has arrived at London and will lie up there for the winter.

S.S. Carthaginian sails for Halifax tomorrow.

BRITISH LOSSES IN NAVAL BATTLE WERE SEVEN KILLED

London, Dec. 12.—The Secretary of the Admiralty has received a cable despatch from Vice-Admiral Sturdee, of the British squadron, stating that in the battle off the Falkland Islands in which the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Leipzig and Nürnberg were sunk, the British casualties totaled seven men killed, and four wounded.

No officers, the despatch says, were either killed or wounded.

Total Casualties To British Officers Almost 7 Thousand

Latest List Issued Gives Names of 79 Killed, 141 Wounded and 33 Missing.

London, Dec. 14.—The official casualty list for the week ended November 30th, was made public today.

It shows that during the seven days the British forces on the Continent lost seventy-nine officers killed, one hundred and forty-one wounded, and thirty-three reported missing.

Added to previous totals the losses since the outbreak in hostilities are nine hundred and sixty-six officers killed, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen wounded, and five hundred and eighty-two missing. Total three thousand four hundred and sixty-six.

German Troops In Antwerp City Have Mutined

Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—A despatch from Antwerp says that reports are current in Antwerp of mutiny, on the part of Bavarian troops garrisoning the city.

While the story is not confirmed, it is a fact that the Bavarian barracks have been closed to outsiders.

Must Operate On Kaiser's Throat When His Better

London, Dec. 14.—Telegraphing from Berne, Switzerland, the correspondent of the Central News says that a telegram has been received there from Munich, saying that it has been decided to operate on Emperor William's throat, but that the operation is being deferred, owing to his feverish condition.

WEATHER REPORT

Toronto (noon)—Gales W. to N.W., turning decidedly colder with light local snow falls to-night and on Wednesday.

S.S. Fogota sailed northward at noon, taking a full general cargo.

Artillery Of Allies Effective

Does Much Execution Amongst the Batteries and Fieldworks of the Enemy

Paris, Dec. 14.—A French official communication given out in Paris this afternoon reads as follows: There has been nothing of importance to report between the sea and the Oise. In the region of the Aisne to North-west of Soupir the enemy bombarded violently our trenches. We replied and demolished their artillery.

There were no infantry attacks from one side or the other.

Our artillery destroyed an important field work in the vicinity of Allou, in the Argonne at Forest of Lagurrie we have made slight progress by the use of mines. There were no attacks from the enemy. On the heights of the Meuse there was violent cannonading.

The batteries of the enemy would appear to have been moved to positions further North in the Woivre Division.

After having occupied a line of entrenchments along a five hundred yards in the Forest of Mortmare our troops repulsed two violent counter attacks.

In Alsace our advance has brought our front to a line which passes four hundred and twenty-five yards to the North of Steinbach, thence to Pont Despach and thence to Pont de Brengheuten fifteen hundred yards to the West of Eyllingen.

German Troops Still In Retreat After Mlawa Fight

No Engagement of Any Importance on Any of the Fronts Since This Battle.

(Russian Official Bulletin.)

Petrograd, Dec. 14.—The general staff of the Russian army has given out the following communication, under Sunday's date:

There has been no engagement of any importance on any fronts. In the region of Mlawa, we continue to force back the German troops, who are in retreat.

On the left bank of the River Vistula there has been no change.

In the region of Mount Dukat, the Austrian columns are coming down the northern slope of the Carpathians.

Reservists Return

Petty officers Collier, Snell, J. Strickland and A. B. T. W. Brown, who sailed with the Naval Reservists on the Carthaginian, returned by that steamer last night.

The Reservists had a splendid run across, and on reaching Glasgow were divided into three sections, 50, 50 and 49, being immediately sent to Plymouth, Chatham and Portsmouth, respectively.

The conduct of the men was, just as we thought it would be, splendid.

S.S. Fogota sailed northward at noon, taking a full general cargo.

Germany Suffers From a Famine

Supplies of Various Metals Fail

London, Dec. 15.—Information received here indicates that a famine in both the finer and the baser metals exists in Germany.

An appeal is made by The Cologne Gazette to its readers and even to soldiers in the field to send their stored

German Invasion of Poland Ends Invaders Must Take the Defensive

London, Dec. 15.—A Petrograd despatch to the Times says the German invasion reached its high water mark last Saturday.

Having failed to undermine and overthrow the Russian wall, the invasion has now ceased to menace a further inroad in Poland and interest is stimulated in the next move of the

Russian Staff which, a few days ago, intimated that the Russian armies were ready to retire to more favorable positions behind Warsaw.

Now that the Russian army has splendidly responded to the situation this will not be necessary and the next move will be a manoeuvre to the German flank.

French Captured Heights in the Vosges Singing 'Marseillaise' as They Charged

Paris, Dec. 10.—An official report of the principal happenings on the battle front from November 27 to December 5, was given out in Paris to-day. It is in part from the observations of the Eye Witness at the front, and is as follows:

"The period of time between November 27 and December 5, was not marked by operations of any great extent, but observations made during these days has been the fact that along the whole front we have taken the ascendancy over the enemy, with our artillery, as well as with our infantry.

Success of the French. "The French artillery, without suffering severely from the fire of the German cannon, was successful at a number of points in silencing batteries of the enemy, and even in demolishing several of them. Our infantry, showing a sustained spirit of offense, made progress everywhere, and at no point was this infantry progress followed by retirement.

"From the sea to the Oise, on the first of December, and at Bixchoote and Merkon, our heavy artillery inflicted serious damage on five German batteries. Several ammunition wagons were blown up. The same day at Wyndredref we destroyed a section of German machine guns. December 24, our heavy artillery imposed silence

upon the heavy artillery of the Germans. On the 8th of November, our artillery demolished certain bridges built by the enemy, and destroyed his supplies; this in the region of Knocke. There was a similar series of engagements December 2nd at Bixchoote.

Trench Filled With Dead. "On the 27th of November we bombarded successfully, at a point near Lens, certain German supply transports, and November 29, we demolished the earthworks of the enemy in the vicinity of Roelincourt.

"The east of Ypres, on November 29, the Germans evidenced great energy in their offensive. Some of the attacking force were killed on the parapets of our trenches. No fewer than 150 bodies were found in front of one trench.

"From one end to the other of the northern front our infantry has made advances and won ground. In the region of Streestraente, November 29, we advanced between 100 and 150

Official Eyewitness Describes Events in the West From Nov. 27 to Dec. 5—Allied Artillery Outclasses That of the Germans—Some Gallant Feats of Arms

yards at Veldhosk, and the same day we made sixty yards at Swartelen.

"The following day we advanced 150 yards near the Inn a' Kortmerker, and on the fourth of December we progressed more than five hundred yards in the region of Langemark, and on the next day, we made more than 200 yards in the region of D' Agny.

We won 100 yards in the region of Mametz on the first of December, and our advance on the fourth of December, amounted to about 200 yards in the region of Audechy, Ovilloirs and Fricourt.

"Several infantry engagements are worthy of special mention. The engagement which resulted in giving us the House of the Ferryman, the position of which has been indicated in previous official communications, was particularly brilliant.

Two Hundred German Dead. "The assault on the House of the Ferryman was undertaken by a detachment of one hundred volunteers from the African battalion.

"Our soldiers fought in the water up to their waists, and in a violent rain storm. The Germans gave evidence of the greatest courage. Our men found it necessary to kill one officer and fifteen soldiers, who refused to surrender. In the House of the

(Continued on page 2)

Sleighs and Skates advertisement for G. Knowling, listing various items like Girls' Sleighs, Boys' Sleds, and Ladies' Glacier Skates.