

Huns Bracing For Supreme Effort
Collapse of Bolsheviki Regime in Russia Approaching
Germany Still Massing Troops on West Front

WAR WORTH WHILE FOR THE FUTURE

Austrian Troops Expect to Participate in Impending Drive Against Franco-British Forces on West Front; Design to Precipitate Decisive Battle of the War

SAYINGS OF SIR SAM

"I am proud to be on the same platform with Harry Cocksutt, because I know he was requested by Sir Robert Borden to stand in this riding as a supporter of Union Government."

Aerial Activity Resumed on West Front in Early Part of This Week; British Bombed Enemy Villages and Bavarian Railway Junctions

BOLSHEVIKI RULE NEAR ITS CLOSE

Other Russ Leaders Join Kaledines to Overthrow Maximalists

Must End in Peace of Security, Declares Asquith at Birmingham

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Dec. 12.—Hon. H. H. Asquith, former premier, said yesterday in his speech at Birmingham...

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Dec. 12.—"It is common talk in Vienna and throughout Austria," says a letter from Berne...

The letter comes from a trustworthy Swiss in Berne, who has passed two years in Austria and it is published in Le Matin.

"I myself, met in a Prague hotel Austrian non-commissioned officers who told me that they were going to the French front. Without specifying their purpose, they continued: 'Our officers had warned us that as soon as our offensive against Italy was stopped we should be transported to France to give the Germans the same assistance as they had given us against Italy.'"

In an earlier part of the letter the Swiss remarks: "Austrians of all classes say that there must be peace in the spring because it is impossible to bear the war burden any longer."

This is owing to the food shortage, the lack of men and labor and the internal political troubles. Other despatches received here from neutral sources indicate the same probability that Germany, faced by political troubles, is going to make a supreme effort in the near future, a last desperate attempt to gain victory before the Americans turn the balance against her.

Want Inquiry. London, Dec. 12.—The Times this morning prints conspicuously an editorial demanding a prompt and searching inquiry into the battle on the southern end of the Cambrai salient on November 30 and on the following days, owing, it says, to disquieting first-hand amplifications of censored accounts. These are said to include charges of blundering and assertions that the British were caught unready.

"What would the men at the front think if this constituency elected a man who had been associated with Laurierism?"

"Harry Cocksutt was endorsed in October by Sir Robert Borden, the leader of the Union Government. I want to know what manipulation has been going on at Ottawa, what information was given the Government that recalled that endorsement?"

In a characteristic whirlwind visit to Brant yesterday, Major-General Sir Sam Hughes, ex-Minister of Militia, addressed enthusiastic meetings in the interests of Col. Harry Cocksutt at Brantford, Parkdale and Paris. At each place he was accorded a rousing reception, and his clear-cut and frank discussion of the national issues of the day, his keen perception of the situation in the riding of Brant, and his wholehearted support of the Union Government, expressed in no uncertain manner, won for him attentive hearing and provoked prolonged and spontaneous applause.

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Dec. 12.—There was great activity in the air on Monday, especially in the Cambrai region, according to the official statement on aerial operations issued last night.

The weather became suitable for flying on Monday and great activity in the air took place on both sides. The enemy's machines were very active west of Cambrai, making repeated attacks on our artillery machines. Our airplanes dropped many bombs and fired many rounds from their machine guns on enemy villages, hutments and trenches. In the evening hostile machines dropped bombs in our army areas, but only slight damage resulted.

"During the day two German airplanes were brought down in air fighting and two others were driven down out of control. An hostile balloon also was brought down and another German airplane was shot down by our infantry. Three of our machines are missing.

Political Crisis. London, Dec. 12.—It is rumored that a certain section of parliament may unite to outvote the government on one or the other of several measures now before the House. Feeling its position to be insecure, the government, it is reported, is determined to present this alternative to parliament: "Either you give us adequate assurance of your support, or we appeal to the country."

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Dec. 12.—Russian officials in London, who are establishing direct communications with General Kaledines and other leaders of democratic organizations in Russia, declared to the Associated Press today that the movement to overthrow the Bolsheviki was supported not only by the Cossacks, but by almost all the leaders of the other parties. These leaders, it was said, are confident they will be able to make short shrift of the Bolsheviki.

Fighting at Tamanovka. London, Dec. 12.—The fighting at Tamanovka, according to a Reuters dispatch from Petrograd, appears to have been between detachments of anti-Bolsheviki shock battalions and local troops assisted by sailors, Red Guards, infantry and armoured cars sent from Petrograd. The fighting lasted all day and all night. It adds that it was very severe and that there were a great number of casualties.

Ambassadors Dismissed. Petrograd, Monday, Dec. 10.—Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, has issued a decree dismissing all Russian ambassadors and their staffs because they ignored the Bolsheviki demand that they pronounce the Kerensky Government.

Senate Dispersed. Petrograd, Dec. 10.—The Bolsheviki have dispersed the Senate, the highest Russian court, and all the other courts of Petrograd. In keeping with the recent decree of the people's commissaries substituting new revolutionary tribunals, the only opposition met was at the Palace of County Judges, who refused to be dispersed. They were arrested by soldiers.

SIR SAM HUGHES TOLD TRUTH ABOUT FAILURE OF VOLUNTARY RECRUITING SYSTEM IN CANADA

Ex-Minister of Militia Held Quebec to Account for Slackness

Brantford, Dec. 11.—(By a Staff Reporter)—Major General Sir Sam Hughes disclosed the inside story of the failure of the voluntary system in Canada, and the enactment of the Military Service Act in the course of a forceful address to a crowded audience at the Armories here this afternoon.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, Dec. 12.—Except for light snow in southern Alberta and northern Ontario, the weather has been fair and decidedly cold over the Dominion. A shallow disturbance is centred off the south Atlantic coast and another is moving eastward across Lake Superior.

A CHEEKY REQUEST

To Which Harry Cocksutt Makes a Suitable Answer

A Self-Styled Committee in Brant Cannot Get Away With Their Bluff

Mr. Harry Cocksutt to-day received the following telegram: Paris, Dec., '17. Mr. Harry Cocksutt, Brantford: Please hand the Cansville Women's Institute the one hundred dollars promised, as the Premier has established our right to use the name Union Government Committee by recognizing the name in his telegram to us from Halifax on the 8th.

Your message proves nothing. No general meeting of the electors of Brant has ever been advertised or called that authorized you to use the name "Union Government Executive Committee."

German Autocracy in Brant Riding, Declared Sir Sam

Parkdale, Dec. 11.—(By a Staff Reporter)—Methods adopted by opponents of Col. Harry Cocksutt, the win-the-war candidate for the riding of Brant, were scathingly criticized by Sir Sam Hughes before a large meeting of electors consisting largely of women, held in the Bellview school here last night.

Other speakers were the candidate and Senator Fisher. Senator Fisher, Chairman of the German League in Brant, spoke briefly introducing Sir Sam and outlining the platform of Col. Cocksutt, the supporter of the Union Government. The Candidate was greeted with a spontaneous outburst of cheering as he commenced his address. He reiterated his strong and consistent support of the Union government and read his letter of endorsement from the G. W. V. A. After referring to the "endorsement" claims that had been made by his opponent he exclaimed: "That is my endorsement!"

SENATOR FISHER STRONGLY DENIES

A Despatch Which is Dated From Paris

Harry Cocksutt Also States that Statement is News to Him

The following despatch appears in the Mail and Empire of to-day: Paris, Ont., Dec. 11.—W. S. Brewster, K.C., on behalf of Senator J. H. Fisher, has served notice on Mayor Robinson, of Paris, threatening criminal action against him for reproducing a facsimile of an issue of the Canadian Gazette without distinguishing it as being a reproduction. When telephoned by the Courier with reference to the above Senator Fisher replied: "The statement is absolutely false as far as I am concerned. I have never given Mr. Brewster instructions regarding anything."

Theatre Could Not Accommodate Crowd Gathered in Paris

(By a Staff Reporter). Paris, Dec. 11.—Paris turned out en masse here to-night to welcome Major-General Sir Sam Hughes, ex-Minister of Militia, on his first visit to the town. An overflow meeting was required to accommodate the vast crowd of electors that thronged to hear the veteran soldier who was responsible for raising Canada's first contribution of troops to the war. Sir Sam addressed a first meeting in the Gem Theatre, which was crowded to capacity, and then carried his message of endorsement of Col. Harry Cocksutt to another packed meeting in the win-the-war rooms.

Other speakers were the candidate, Senator Fisher and Lieut. W. G. Flowerday. Col. Cocksutt contended that he was the first candidate in the riding to be nominated as a supporter of the Union Government. Moreover, he did not have to resign to find out his position. That was already definitely fixed and he was not called upon to submit to a conversion of principle to consistently support Sir Robert Borden. The candidate clearly expressed his stand on the treatment of the returned soldier. He thought that this was a Government duty to adequately provide for the needs of the veteran and would advocate this in Parliament if elected. Not only must the soldier be liberally and fairly treated upon his return, but the troops in the trenches should not be forsaken. In this connection he said: "For the sake of those who have fallen, for the sake of the wounded (Continued on Page Five.)"

THE RECORD OF THE UNION GOVERNMENT

They abolished patronage in appointments to Government positions, in the purchase of supplies and in awarding of Government contracts. Patronage was the Worst Evil in Politics. They controlled the packing houses by ordering that they must not charge a profit of more than two per cent. on their sales—that is to say only two cents profit on a dollar. They passed an order providing that the flour millers can make a profit of only 25c. on each barrel of flour. They stopped the use of grain in the manufacture of liquor. They stopped expenditures on almost all Public works with the object of conserving our finances for the war. They greatly extended the powers of the Food Controller, giving him practically unlimited authority. They increased the separation allowance to wives and other dependents of soldiers under the rank of Sergeant from \$20 to \$25 a month. They are standing no nonsense from the Quebec Exemption Tribunals who tried to make a farce of the thing. Thousands of appeals from these Tribunals have been taken by the Government representatives and will be tried promptly. The Government are seeing to it that Quebec does not escape its duty. They have been in office only eight weeks and have been hampered through having to run an election forced upon the Country by Laurier.

Are YOU Going to Vote to Vote WITH the Brave Boys at the Front, or Will You Vote AGAINST Them?

Days Protection! Consult J. Harvey... Various departments... WANTED... COY WANTED... Wages to Start... WEATHER BULLETIN... CANADIAN NORTH AND REGULATION... What is Terrific Zimmie?...