

Commander Agrees to Sinking of Ship

UNION OBJECT

Campania Region and Pre-Going to Russia

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ALL THIS WEEK

The Journal of Commerce

THE BUSINESS MAN'S DAILY

VOL. XXIX, No. 260

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1915

ONE CENT

THE MOLSONS BANK
Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1855

Paid-up Capital \$4,000,000
Reserve Fund \$4,800,000

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GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN STEEL HAS RECEIVED NO SET BACK

Boston, Mass., March 12.—While this is not the season of the year to expect great business activity, it is gratifying to note that there has been during the past week no material setback in the general improvement which started about the first of January. Such things as the small increase in unfilled tonnage of the Steel Corporation during February and our big foreign trade credit balance for that month as well as the satisfactory showing thus far this month, are concrete evidences that the movement of business is in the right direction.

Except in instances where the demand from foreign governments for goods for military purposes has made unneeded activity, business is not booming, but it is showing very healthy indications. The wool trade is fairly active, but no big business is expected until the mills again come into the market for supplies. Prices hold well, however. In leather, conditions are quiet, reflecting the quiet state of the shoe trade, which has yet not made a great pickup.

In the metal line, the steel companies are doing better, thanks to increased buying by the railroads. Copper is less active than a week ago, while the spelter market shows unmistakable signs of weakening. This is not surprising in view of the record prices which have been made of late.

MAY HAND DOWN STEEL DECISION SOON.

New York, March 12.—Interests identified with U. S. Steel are of the opinion that decision in suit of the government to dissolve the Corporation may be handed down sooner than is generally expected. It would not be surprising if the Circuit Court rendered its decision with the next four weeks.

Naturally the attorneys for U. S. Steel Corporation are of the opinion that the government will lose. Recent dissolution decisions have strengthened this belief.

The lawyers have no idea when the final decision will be rendered by the Supreme Court, but estimate that it will be from 1 year to 18 months.

DULUTH-SUPERIOR'S APRIL PAYMENT ON THE COMMON WILL NOT BE MADE.

New York, March 12.—The usual quarterly dividend of 1 per cent. will not be paid April 1st, on the common stock of the Duluth-Superior Traction Co., on which dividends have been regularly paid 1 per cent. quarterly since July, 1912.

The board declared a dividend of 1 per cent. on the common stock, payable July 1, and voted to omit the April dividend.

COPPER DEMAND LESSENE.

New York, March 12.—The demand noticed in the copper market over the last few days seems to have largely slumped off although a large agency advanced its asking price to 15 cents, making at least two important concerns which are now asking that figure. Other sellers are willing to accept 14 to 14 1/2 cents. The domestic demand has been confined almost wholly to manufacturers of war material, copper thus being destined for ultimate foreign consumption. Of legitimate domestic demand there is almost none. A large electrical company reports business on less than 50 p.c. basis.

NO DIVIDEND ACTION.

Passadena, Calif., March 12.—John Willys, president of Willys-Overland Company asked regarding the imminence of the stock dividend or the extra cash dividend by his company says: "No action regarding an extra stock dividend by his company will be taken until early in April. There will be no extra cash dividend paid at present time."

"Business is very satisfactory and profitable but we can use our surplus in our business to good advantage."

GERMAN SHARE AUCTIONS.

New York, March 12.—There is a good deal of mystery in the offering at auction in the past few weeks, of stock in New Yorker Staats Zeitung. No information has been obtained as to the principals, and the auctioneer keeps silence as to sellers or buyers.

At Wednesday's sale 15 shares were sold for \$750 a share, 20 at \$600 a share, and 25 shares for \$1,000 a share. On February 17th, 25 shares at auction brought \$150 a share. On February 10th, 25 shares went for \$25,418. This is 110 shares, representing \$32,468, which has changed hands since January 1st.

REGULAR QUARTERLY DIVIDEND.

New York, March 12.—Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power declared regular quarterly dividend of \$1.50 per share on preferred stock, payable April 15th, to stock of record March 27th.

GERMAN CRUISERS ARE AGAIN ACTIVE

Dresden, Whose Whereabouts has Been a Mystery, Sinks British Bark

FRENCH STEAMER SUNK

Belgium and North-Eastern France Has Again Become the Scene of a Terrific Struggle.—Battle Raging in Northern Poland.

(Special Cable to The Journal of Commerce.)
London, March 12.—For the first time since Germany began her submarine war against shipping in British waters one of the undersea boats has struck an armed vessel. The auxiliary cruiser Bayern was torpedoed by one in the North Channel, from the Irish Sea to the Atlantic, and went down immediately with the loss of almost her entire crew.

The Belfast steamer Castlereagh, which went to the rescue of the sailors, keeping afloat on rafts and wreckage, was chased away by a German submarine.

Eight officers and eighteen men were saved by the Belfast steamer Balmerino and the armed merchantman Tara.

The rest of the crew, numbering approximately two hundred men, perished.

After their whereabouts had long been a mystery, the German cruiser Dresden and the auxiliary cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm have again appeared as commerce destroyers. The Dresden, which barely escaped destruction with the rest of Vice-Admiral Kraft Von Spee's fleet off the Falklands, has sunk the British Bark Conway Castle off Terra, Chili, and the Kronprinz Wilhelm has sunk the French passenger steamer Guadeloupe, off Fernando De Noronha, a Brazilian island in the South Atlantic. All on board were saved in each case.

Of the Dardanelles forts only Fort Chizik holds out, according to a despatch to the Daily Telegraph. Two mine fields yet remain to be swept. The batteries at Dardanus have been destroyed. This despatch says, and Fort Hamdeh badly damaged. The Russian black sea fleet is expected to bombard the forts on the Bosphorus in co-operation with the Allied attack through the Dardanelles.

With improvement in the weather conditions, Belgium and North-eastern France has become again the scene of terrific struggles. Stung by the British successes in the region of La Bassee, the Germans are reported strengthening their line at that point by three divisions of infantry.

On the coast more troops are being massed near Westende, to be thrown against the Allied positions about the Great Dune.

The British success about Neuve Chapelle has been followed up by the capture of the German trenches at the Hamlet of Pietre.

The village of Le Pinette, two miles east of Armentieres, has been occupied by the British.

On Thursday and Friday slight gains were made in Champagne, and several trenches were occupied northwest of Souain.

A great battle is raging in Northern Poland, with the lines practically parallel to the East Prussian frontier.

On their left, in the region of Senny, the Germans, greatly strengthened, are engaged in a vigorous offensive movement.

In the centre of this front the battle is largely an artillery combat, while on the German right the infantry has entrenched, their progress in the direction of Przaszyn being checked.

GERMANS ABANDON PLAN OF CUTTING WARSAW RAILROAD.

Petrograd, March 12.—An official statement issued says: The idea of cutting the Warsaw-Petrograd railway has apparently been abandoned by the Germans. Campaign for courses of the Bohr and Narow has narrowed down to two rails, one from south Mazurian Lakes in the region of Lomza, the other for Chorzew, along the Orzow toward Pultusk.

Both these German attacks are being conducted in great numbers collected from columns which abandoned their lines of offense. They are meeting determined Russian resistance, and their progress has been definitely checked.

NEW YALE AND TOWNE ISSUE.

New York, March 12.—Stockholders of the Yale and Towne Manufacturing Co., upon recommendation of directors, authorized issue of \$500,000 additional capital stock. Substantially all stockholders have waived their right of subscription thereto in order thereby to place stock so surrendered in the hands of directors, and thus enabling latter to arrange for its acquisition in proper proportions, and on equitable terms "at not less than par" by officers and employees of company upon whom will rest the responsibility of further development of the business.

WORKMEN'S LIEN BILL.

Halifax, N.S., March 12.—It looks as though there would be a keen contest and considerable lobbying in the House of Assembly over two bills that have been introduced, both of which will be opposed by the Builders' Association and one by the loan companies.

The first of these is the workmen's lien bill which gives workmen who have a claim for wages, and those who supply material for buildings, a lien ahead of the mortgage.

Clause 12 of this act provides that the owner shall, as the work advances and materials are delivered, deduct from any payments to be made by him in respect of the contract, and retain for a period of thirty days after the completion or abandonment of the contract, 20 per cent. of the value of the work, service and materials actually furnished.

Such value shall be calculated on the basis of the contract price, or if there is no specific contract price, then on the basis of the actual value of the work, service or materials.

This bill and the workmen's Compensation Act, while calling forth the opposition of the money lenders and the contractors, will probably find equally strong support from another important element in the community. Labor and supply houses will favor it.



COL. F. O. W. LOOMIS, in command of the 5th Royal Highlanders now at the front in Flanders.

Men in the Day's News

Mr. James Aird, of the Bank of Montreal, who died yesterday in his sixteenth years, was secretary of that institution. The late Mr. Aird was born at Troon, Scotland, in 1855 and came to Canada as a young man of eighteen and entered the services of the Bank of Montreal. He made rapid progress in it and was soon appointed to an important position in the head office later, succeeding the late Mr. Brock Buchanan as a secretary of the bank. He was a courteous, official—a typical gentleman of the old school.

Mr. John McDougall, Commissioner of Customs at Ottawa, is sixty-seven years old to-day. He was born in Pictou County, N.S., his name and birthplace both pointing to a Scottish ancestry. Mr. McDougall possesses many Scottish traits, among which are thoroughness and the conscientious performance of his duties. He represented Pictou County in the House of Commons in the years 1881 to 1896, since when he has been Commissioner of Customs. Although a Conservative, Mr. McDougall enjoyed in a remarkable manner the confidence of the Liberal Ministers. He has a thorough knowledge of customs matters.

Count Serdus Witte, Russia's first Prime Minister, who died last night, was for years an outstanding figure in Russian politics. Count Witte was born at Tiflis in 1849, educated at the University of Odessa, and then engaged in railway work. He first came to the front during the Russo-Turkish war by his ability to move supplies and troops. He was later made Minister of Railways, and then Minister of Finance. He was responsible for the building of the Trans-Siberian railroad, and for much of the development which has taken place in Russia in recent years. Count Witte was one of the Russian delegates at Portsmouth when the peace terms with Japan were arranged. In 1905 he became head of Russia's first responsible ministry, but soon resigned.

Mr. Elias Rogers, who presided yesterday at the annual meeting of the Crown's Nest Pass Coal Company, is one of the big business men of the Ontario capital. Mr. Rogers is head of the well-known coal firm of Elias Rogers & Company, president of the Crown's Nest Pass Coal Company, a director of the Imperial Bank and Confederation Life Assurance Company and of other corporations. He is regarded as one of the greatest authorities in Canada on the coal trade, but is equally well known for his large donations to religious and philanthropic institutions, particularly in connection with the Society of Friends, of which he is a leading member. Mr. Rogers is an ex-president of the Toronto Board of Trade and was also an alderman of the city.

Mr. James Kent, whose retirement as manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway Telegraph Company has just been announced, has been connected with that business all his life—twenty-nine years of which were spent with the company which he now leaves. Mr. Kent was born in Montreal in 1854 and entered the services of the Montreal Telegraph Company as a messenger boy. Later he became chief clerk of the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company and, on the formation of the Canadian Pacific Railway Telegraph Company, he joined it as chief operator at the Montreal office. Promotion came rapidly, until in 1899 Mr. Kent succeeded Mr. C. R. Hosmer as manager of the company's lines. Mr. Kent is a striking example of what hard work and the conscientious performance of the daily task will accomplish. He climbed from the lowest to the highest position in his profession.

Mr. Peter McArthur had a birthday this week. He was born at Ekfrid, Ont. in 1856, educated at the high school at Wardsville and the Collegiate Institute at Strathroy and then put in a term or two at the University of Toronto. He left college to take up journalism in which he made a marked success. He held many important positions on newspapers in Toronto, New York and London, England, but is probably best known through his free lance work—"the art of concealing one's ignorance at space rates". Some half dozen years ago he returned to Canada and inaugurated the "Back to the Land Movement" by returning to the old homestead. In addition to farming, Mr. McArthur writes weekly letters for a number of papers giving accounts of his efforts and commentaries on political, social and economic questions. He is one of the best known writers in the country.

General D'Amade, who has charge of the Anglo-French forces which have been landed at Gallipoli where they are co-operating with the fleet fighting its way up the Dardanelles, has been associated with the English on previous occasions. He spent several years as military attaché of the French Embassy in London and was also attached to the staff of Lord Kitchener during the Boer War, where a very warm friendship sprang up between the two. At the commencement of the present war General D'Amade was in charge of the camp at Chalons and afterwards co-operated with the British in outflanking the German right wing under Von Kluck. The General has seen active service in Tongking and in other parts of China, as well as having had a considerable share in the French conquest of Morocco. The day before he sailed from the Dardanelles General D'Amade received word that the younger of his two sons, a lad of twenty holding a commission in an infantry regiment, had been killed while leading a charge against the foe.

HOW FRANCE FINANCED HER WAR INDEMNITY

Government Agents Scoured World for Points Where Foreign Exchange was Weak

HISTORY TO REPEAT ITSELF

Probably There Will Again Be Seen Extensive Fluctuations in Exchange Rates at New York and at Canadian Centres.

(By H. M. P. Eckhardt.)

Although the war has not yet progressed to the point at which one can be sure that a large indemnity will be collected by the victors, the responsible heads of the British Government have declared that they will not consider peace terms unless there is provision for indemnifying Belgium for injuries sustained. There has also been persistent suggestions that France will endeavor to secure the return of the money mulcted from her in 1871. So in the event of a decisive victory for the Allies the matter of indemnity will be fully discussed.

In view of these probabilities it will be interesting to explain exactly how France settled the payments exacted by Germany on the former occasion. Altogether France was required to pay 5,200,000,000 francs. This included the ransom of 200,000,000 francs for the City of Paris. The French Government was given from 10th of May, 1871, to 2nd of March, 1874, to complete the payments. Payments were to be made as follows:

500,000,000 francs in 30 days after the restoration of order in Paris.
1,000,000,000 francs throughout 1871.
500,000,000 francs on 1st of May 1872.
3,000,000,000 francs on 2nd of March 1874.

The Eastern Railroad of France by partly in Alsace which province was taken by Germany and the Germans agreed to accept this in lieu of 225,000,000 francs. The City of Paris ransom was paid over, and on adjusting it there was a small balance of 98,400 francs due to the city. This also was set off against the debt. It was arranged that payment might be made in gold, silver, notes of the Banks of England, Prussia, Holland, and Belgium, or first class bills of exchange. Notes of the Bank of France were to be accepted up to 125,000,000 francs. Rates of exchange applying to the money of the different countries were fixed in advance.

Contingencies were carefully provided for and the operation was divided into two sections, the first consisted of the payment of 2,000,000,000 francs, and the second of the final 2,000,000,000 francs. In connection with the first operation, the pound sterling was taken as equivalent to 25.30 francs; but in the second allowance was made for exchange rates being forced up by the abnormal and long continued demand of the French Government. A pound sterling then passed for 25.43 francs.

Before the exchange operations could be commenced the Government required to raise the money. A loan was negotiated with the Bank of France and two public subscriptions were opened, not only Frenchmen but others were invited to subscribe. Agents were appointed in London, Brussels, Amsterdam, Berlin, Frankfurt and Hamburg. These countries were selected because the greatest supply of bills of exchange would be found there. Commissions allowed to the agents were 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 per cent on the first section; and on the second 1 p.c. at first and afterwards 1-1/2 and 1-1/4. Bills drawn on Berlin were accepted at face value, and on the other places less cost of collection. Such gold and silver as the Bank of France and other institutions could spare were handed over. During their campaign and occupation the

(Continued on page 5.)

FOR FIRST TIME IN U. S. HISTORY IMMIGRATION TURNS TO EUROPE.

Washington, D.C., March 12.—For the first time in the history of the United States the flow of immigration has been turned back toward Europe by the war, and more aliens are leaving the United States than are coming here to make their homes.

Statistics made public to-day by Immigration Commissioner Caminetti, show that the change came in December last, when the number of emigrant aliens leaving the country was greater by 2,240, than the total of immigrants entering. In January, 1,775 more departed than entered. The departures for these six months from August, 1914, to January last, totalled 18,545 more than the arrivals, including both emigrant and non-emigrant aliens.

The heaviest emigration was shown among aliens from Southern Italy. Of these 75,629 more departed than were admitted during the seven months ended with January. This presumably was due to the calling of Italian reservists to the colors.

NEW YORK EXCHANGE.

New York exchange \$6.87 1/2c premium.

COAL TRADE UNCHANGED

New York, March 12.—General conditions in the anthracite trade are about the same as during the last two or three weeks. Demand is extremely light and while cold weather has given some impetus to retail trade, it is not on the basis that it should be, and producers have not yet become affected. Most retail dealers have a good volume of stocks on hand from which to fill orders, without ordering more. There is little expectation of any change in trade conditions before April 1, after which date it is natural there will be more inquiries for coal to be supplied at the new coal years prices. It is apparent, however, that the stimulus trade will receive after April 1, this year will not be equal to previous years, although there is an improved tone felt. Construction at the mines continues. Some companies are working only two days a week, some three, and some from day to day, without any regular schedule.

The situation in the bituminous trade shows no comparative improvement over anthracite.

SPAIN FORBIDS PRODUCE EXPORTS.

Madrid, March 12.—The Spanish government has prohibited the export of oil, fish, coal, vegetables, meat, grain, metals and other minerals and foodstuffs.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Head Office—TORONTO

Paid Up Capital . . . \$15,000,000
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Collections Effected Promptly and at Reasonable Rates

BRITISH AIRMEN AGAIN DROP BOMBS ON GERMAN LINES

London, March 12.—Continuing their advance from Neuve Chapelle, British forces in Northern France are now attacking German positions near Aubers, where they captured 612 prisoners.

This information was contained in an official statement issued by the Government Press Bureau.

It was further announced that British airmen flew over Don and Douai, French cities within the German lines, and dropped bombs which destroyed the railway junctions.

TOTAL GOLD IMPORTS.

New York March 12.—Total gold engaged for import, from all quarters, since the beginning of the year, now amounts to \$17,700,000. The import engagements were as follows:—

Jan. 11, Royal Bank Canada, from Canada . . .	\$850,000
Jan. 14, Guaranty Trust Co., from China . . .	3,000,000
Jan. 15, Guaranty Trust Co., from London . . .	300,000
Jan. 20, Guaranty Trust Co., from China . . .	200,000
Feb. 9, Various firms, from South America . . .	1,900,000
Feb. 10, Lazard Freres, from Ottawa . . .	2,500,000
Feb. 16, Lazard Freres, from Ottawa . . .	3,500,000
Feb. 26, Lazard Freres, from Ottawa . . .	3,250,000
Feb. 28, Inter. Banking Corp., from Japan . . .	1,000,000
Mar. 12, Guaranty Trust, from Ottawa . . .	200,000
Mar. 1, Goldman, Sachs & Co., from London . . .	500,000
Mar. 1, Kidder, Peabody & Co., London . . .	250,000
Mar. 3, Lazard Freres, from Ottawa . . .	600,000
Mar. 3, National City Bank, from Denmark . . .	300,000
Mar. 4, International Bk. Corp., from Japan . . .	750,000
Mar. 11, International Bk. Corp., from Japan . . .	500,000

Total \$17,700,000

By countries, the sources of the gold imports since Jan. 1 were as follows: Canada, \$6,900,000; China, \$3,200,000; Japan, \$2,250,000; London, \$1,650,000; South America, \$1,000,000; Denmark, \$300,000.

Against this must be deducted \$2,000,000 in gold bars withdrawn by Lazard Freres from the assay office on January 5 for account of the Bank of France.

BANK CLEARANCES REDUCED.

New York, March 12.—Clearings through the banks are again in notably reduced volume, the total this week at the leading cities in the United States, according to Dun's Review, amounting to \$2,481,926,638, a decrease of 12.3% as compared with the \$2,828,312,211 of the same week last year, and of 13.9 per cent. as contrasted with the corresponding week in 1912, when \$2,881,716,516 was reported. This unfavorable comparison is mainly due to the falling off at New York city, that centre showing losses of 15.0 and 17.8 per cent., respectively, from the corresponding weeks in the two immediate preceding years. The cities outside New York make a comparatively favorable exhibit, being only 7.6 per cent. smaller than last year, and 6.9 per cent. less than two years ago. Cleveland, Kansas City and Minneapolis continue to show substantial improvement over both years, while at several other points the tendency toward more normal conditions that has been noted of late continues in evidence.

GEORGIAN BAY CANAL.

Ottawa, March 12.—The commission appointed two years ago to report on the commercial feasibility of the Georgian Bay Canal is still gathering information.

Hon. George P. Graham in the House of Commons, asked when a report might be expected, but the Hon. W. T. White could not say.

Neither was information forthcoming as to when the Government intends going ahead with the canal.

THROUGH DARDANELLES BY EASTER.

Paris, March 12.—Vice-Admiral Carden, commanding the British fleet operating against the Dardanelles, has expressed the opinion that the Allies will be able to hammer their way through the Straits before Easter, according to an Athens despatch to the Journal.

FRENCH LINE CHANGES PORT.

New York, March 12.—The French Line announces that owing to dangers to navigation in the war zone about the British Isles and the northern coast of France, ships sailing from New York will clear for Bordeaux instead of Havre.

LARGE LOCOMOTIVE ORDER.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 12.—Baldwin Locomotive Works has received an order from Burlington for 50 freight locomotives including 20 of Mikado type, 15 Pacific type and 15 Santa Fe type.