

(Continued from page 2.)

nection that the non-Bolshevik and non-Socialist parties will try to reassemble the constituent assembly with the view of appealing to the Allies.

London, Feb. 25.—The Germans have been raiding the British positions at various points, according to the report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters in France tonight. The statement says: "A hostile raid attempted early this morning against our positions on Hill 70 was repulsed with loss. Another raiding party, which attacked one of our posts last night north of Poestappel, was driven off by rifle fire before reaching our position. A few prisoners were brought in by our patrols on various parts of the front. The enemy's artillery was active during the day, between Gouzeaucourt and the Scarpe Valley, and a number of points between Lens and Armentieres and northeast and north of Ypres."

London, Feb. 25.—"A raid attempted by the enemy last night in the neighborhood of Broodseinde was reported," says today's official report. "The hostile artillery was active throughout the first half of the night in the Passchendaele sector."

Petrograd, Feb. 25.—"Their knees are on our chests and our position is hopeless," declared Nikolai Lenin, the Bolshevik premier, in the course of his long speech to the central executive committee of the all-Russian council of workmen's and soldiers' delegates, in which he insisted upon the acceptance of the Austro-German peace conditions however oppressive an unfortunate they might appear. "This peace must be accepted as a respite," he continued, "enabling us to prepare a decisive resistance to the Bourgeois and imperialism. The proletariat of the whole world will come to our aid." Leon Trotsky, Bolshevik foreign minister, will not go to Brest-Litovsk to sign the new peace terms, nor will many of the members of the Russian delegation which conducted the earlier negotiations there with the exception of M. Karakhan, secretary of the former delegation. The workmen and soldiers' delegates today chose for the new delegation M. Zinoviev, president of the Petrograd council of workmen and soldiers' delegates; M. Alexieff, acting commissioner of agriculture and M. Sokolokoff. This delegation, accompanied by naval and military representatives will leave tonight for Brest-Litovsk.

Saved Disabled Steamer

Halifax, Feb. 23.—There are on record many long distance tows by steamers or tugboats nearly all of them made at a season of the year when winds are moderate and the task is comparatively easy, but the arrival here of a Cunard liner with the crippled American steamer Clara, 3,937 tons, dragging on eight stout lines running from the Cunarder's stern, eclipses previous towage records. Barges, yachts and other craft may have been towed longer distances—the Clara was towed twelve hundred miles—but it is doubtful if any vessel has ever brought her tow to port under conditions such as those which the Cunard liner above referred to had to combat. The Clara lost her rudder and the machinery was disabled.

Through storm after storm, terrific in their intensity, culminating in the great gale off the Nova Scotia coast last Sunday, the Canarder hauled her heavy and helpless burden. Time and time again the lines parted, but there were always some of the eight big hawsers that held until the broken ones could be renewed. Often the towing ship was unable to make headway against the storm but she kept steadily driving into the great seas, making a knot now and then until a lull in the storm would enable her to manufacture a respectable mileage. Besides having established a towage record, Captain Fear and his crew are entitled to the credit of having saved the Clara from the possibility of falling a victim to the U-boats. When her distress signals were picked up in mid-Atlantic she had for days been drifting back toward the danger zone through which she had recently passed in safety. Thus the possible loss of a valuable ship—a national asset—was avoided.

Local and Other Items

LENTE SERMON

The second of the course of Lenten sermons in St Dunstan's Cathedral, was preached on Sunday evening last, by Rev. J. J. McDonald, Kinkora. There was an immense congregation in attendance. The Rev. preacher's theme was "Judgment" and the discourse was admirable in every way. His text was the 27th verse of the IX. Chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews: "It is appointed for men once to die and after this the judgment." In the development of his theme, the Rev. preacher pointed out that death, the separation of the soul from the body, is the penalty inflicted on man in consequence of the sin of our first parents. This dissolution is a most serious affair and the thought of it inspires great fear. But, said the Rev. preacher, death itself is not the cause of this fear: it is the thought of what comes after death, the judgment, that causes us to fear. Here the Rev. preacher showed that there are two judgments; the particular judgment which takes place in every individual case, immediately after death, and the general judgment which is pronounced at the end of the world, when all mankind shall be gathered together in the valley of Jehoshaphat. As scriptural proofs of the particular judgment, he instanced the case of the unjust Steward, and that of Dives and Lazarus. At the particular judgment rewards and punishments are meted out according to the deserts of those judged. At the general judgment the Man—God will, in the presence of all mankind, lay bare the good and bad in the hearts of men, and here the erring judgments of the world will be reversed, and the justice of God will be made manifest. The conduct of the saints, frequently despised here, will be vindicated and the impositions of the deceitful will be exposed. Then will be shown the foolishness and the criminality of those who despise God. The Rev. preacher here pointed out that wars, famines and pestilences are the presages of the end of the world. These signs, said he, are with us now; but whether or not the end of the world is upon us, we do not know: God knows. At the general judgment, said the Rev. preacher, the Heavens shall be opened, and Jesus Christ shall descend in glory, manifesting great power and majesty, to pronounce the sentence that exalts or condemns for all eternity. Then will he say to the just on the right hand, come ye blessed of my Father possess the kingdom prepared for you from all eternity. Turning to the left he shall say to the wicked: depart from me ye accursed into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. After an exhaustive consideration of the justice of God in His judgments, the Rev. preacher earnestly exhorted his hearers to take into the most serious and earnest consideration this question of the judgment of our souls after death, above all he earnestly prayed that we should lead such good and pure lives as to merit the favorable sentence from the lips of our dear Lord on the day of general judgment.

Hon. Frank Oliver, Laurier's right hand man in the late election, has gone down to defeat. Brigadier-General Griesbach, his unionist opponent, being elected by the home soldiers' vote. Oliver got only 15 soldiers' votes, as against 187 for Griesbach, so that Mr. Oliver, who had a majority of 80 on the civilian vote, is now in a minority of 90.

Five persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed a house and barn in West Peabody Mass on Saturday. The house was occupied by a family named Miller. Police and firemen sent from out found the buildings in flames and with no water supply available. They recovered the body of Miller, his wife and three children.

Four national army soldiers were held in the guard house at Takoma Washington on the 22nd awaiting a presidential warrant from Washington, which will mean their internment as enemy aliens, who plotted not only to shoot their officers the first time they got into action in Europe, but also to deliver all the American soldiers in their organization to the German army.

Facing Terrible Reality

London, Feb. 19.—In the House of Commons today Mr. Lloyd George made his eagerly awaited statement regarding the recent army changes. He said the government was anxious to retain the services of Gen. Sir Wm. Robertson as chief of staff so long as it was compatible with the policy decided upon in common with Great Britain's allies. The premier said the policy of the government was based upon the assumption that the Allies had suffered in the past through lack of concerted and co-ordinated efforts. It had been decided to set up a central authority to co-ordinate the strategy of the Allies. The general principles laid down at the recent session in Versailles of the supreme war council were agreed to by all. It was also agreed that there should be an inter-allied authority with executive powers. The only difference which arose was as to its execution. The first proposal at Versailles, he continues, was that the central authority should consist of a council of chiefs of staff, but this was abandoned inasmuch as it was regarded as unworkable.

Mr. Lloyd George said it was essential that decisions should be taken instantly at Versailles. Meeting separately the delegates of the respective allies, he explained, considered their own plan, which in each case was identical. This plan was passed without a dissenting vote and accepted by all the military representatives, the premier stated. Being under the impression that all the difficulties had been overcome, continued the premier, the government offered General Robertson a position on the Versailles council, but he was unwilling to acquiesce in the system, objecting to it on military grounds. General Robertson, added the premier, then refused the post of chief of staff with powers adapted to the position set up at Versailles.

The American representatives at the Versailles council declared "with irresistible power and logic" for the plan for expansion of the supreme council's power, the premier said. If we should read the documents submitted by the Americans, said Mr. Lloyd George, there would be no need to make a speech. "The case was presented with irresistible power and logic." He added, "what happened? We altered the proposal here and there. There was a good deal of discussion which took some hours. There was not a single dissenting voice so far as the plan was concerned."

"If the House repudiated the policy for which he was responsible, in which he believed the safety of the country depended, Mr. Lloyd George declared he would quit office. His one regret would be that he had not greater strength and ability to place at the disposal of his country in its gravest hour. The British commander Field Marshal Haig, was present at the sessions of the supreme war council. Mr. Lloyd George went on. He drew attention to two weak points in the proposal which were thereupon adjusted by the conference. General Robertson was present when the decision was reported to the war cabinet and did not object. It was agreed, said Mr. Lloyd George that the permanent military adviser at Versailles should be a member of the army council. It was a part of this arrangement that the chief of the imperial staff was to remain the supreme military adviser to the government.

Mr. Lloyd George said the country was faced with terrible realities. He begged the House to have done with all controversy adding that the government was entitled to know tonight whether the House and the country wished it to proceed with the policy deliberately arrived at. The premier asserted that the conclusions reached at Versailles were the result of very powerful representations by the delegates of other governments, notably the American government. General Robertson, said the Premier suggested modification of the proposal by making the representative at Versailles a deputy of the chief of staff. The government felt bound to reject this suggestion, as it involved putting a subordinate in a

position of the first magnitude, which might impose upon him the necessity of taking vital decisions under instructions given him before the full facts were known.

Going To Washington

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—Sir Robert Borden and Hon. A. K. MacLean, acting Minister of Finance, left Monday for Washington to confer with the United States Government regarding the exchange situation and to endeavor to reach an agreement regarding purchases and payments for supplies by Canada to Great Britain and the United States. Canada is at a serious disadvantage. The Dominion is buying about \$400,000,000 worth of goods more annually from the United States than the United States is buying from Canada. On the other hand Great Britain buys from Canada more than Canada buys from the United Kingdom but this adverse balance with Canada so far has been taken up with credits furnished banking and government sources.

The supplies required by Canada from the United States are mostly iron, steel and coal and these products are needed more than ever before. Much of the iron and steel is sent to Great Britain in the form of munitions and war supplies and Canada is asked to furnish credits for these. Canada has to pay the United States for the goods she imports and the large adverse trade balance has to be taken up in gold or credit.

Great Britain still is able to secure loans in the United States, but Canada has been asked to do her own financing out of her own resources. This has placed Canada in a serious difficulty, for in consequence of the adverse trade balance with the United States and the gold scarcity the rates of exchange are such as to prohibit further purchases by Canada unless credits are continued.

Marine Disasters

St. John's, Nfld., February 25.—"The Crack Red Cross Liner 'Florize' from St. John's for New York by way of Halifax with over 150 persons aboard, including 78 passengers piled up on the ledges near Cape Race during the blizzard yesterday, and it is believed that all on board were lost. When darkness shut in the Florize was a battered bulk, submerged from her funnel aft. Heavy combers continually swept the decks where the bow was held up by a jagged rock. Some of those aboard had taken refuge in the forecastle, but this was battered in during the afternoon, leaving the rigging the only place where a human being could cling for his life. So far as could be seen from the shore, only five men were able to climb the rigging. Up to midnight watchers at Board Cove reported seven bodies washed ashore. Two identified were Mrs. Fred Butler, first class passenger for New York, Edward Proude, first class passenger for New York, Corporal Fred Snow, of the Royal Flying Corps, Joseph Kean, Master Mariner, James Long, seaman, of the rescue parties, said it was impossible to get aboard the ship before daybreak today.

St. John's Nfld., Feb. 25.—Survivors of the Florize, so far known, include, passengers—Major Michael Sullivan, Ralph Burnham, Alex. Ledingham, Archibald Gardner, Minnie Daniel and Kitie Cantwell. Capt. Martin reports that John Mann, director of the Red Cross Line was washed from the deck and that his three year old daughter and her nurse were also drowned.

New York, Feb. 25.—Forty survivors of the steamer 'Florize' have been taken off by the steamer Prosper which is now on her way to St. Johns according to a telegram received here today by the Red Cross Line.

Halifax, Feb. 23.—J. A. Farquhar & Company, Ltd., received word today from Burn, Nfld., that Captain Scott and nine of the crew of the steamer Acadien had been lost when their ship was wrecked on the Newfoundland coast. The chief engineer, second engineer, second mate, chief steward, one sailor and one fireman were saved, the message said. The Acadien was formerly the steamer Senlac, of Halifax. She was bound from Louisburg, N. S. for St. Pierre, Miquelon.

A coastal steamer which reached Marystown, Nfld., on the south coast yesterday reported that the Acadien bound from St. Pierre, for a port in France, was disabled Tuesday night off Burn by an accident to her machinery. Efforts to get a towing hawser aboard were unsuccessful on account of heavy seas, but the coastal steamer picked up six men of the Acadien's crew and took them to Marystown.

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