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PROBS—FAIR

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GERMAN PIRATES ADD THIRTY MORE TO DEATH TOLL; SERBIAN CAPITAL BOMBARDED

Five British Steamers Lost During Week, but 1,559 Entered and Sailed From British Ports—Russians Attack Enemy in Vicinity of Pilica River and are Driving Back the Turk in Caucasus—Only Minor Operations in West—Activities of Allied Fleet in Dardanelles Suspended.

London, April 1.—While the German submarines continue their activity around the coasts of Great Britain, the naval wing of the Royal Flying Squadron keeps up its attacks on the German submarines which are being built at Hoboken, and on the submarine base at Zebrugg.

The Germans have added two more steamers to the long list of merchantmen sunk off Beachy Head. The victims this time were the French steamer Emma, which was torpedoed yesterday without notice, 19 of her crew going down with her ship, and the British steamer Seven Seas, sent to the bottom this afternoon without warning, eleven of her crew being drowned.

The British losses already reported for the week ending March 31 were five steamers; a sixth vessel was torpedoed, but reached port. During the week, however, 1,559 vessels entered and sailed from British ports. So, except for the deplorable loss of life, the damage done was not considered excessive.

On the other hand, the British have no means of ascertaining the nature of the damage done by the bombs dropped on Hoboken and Zebrugg, although it is believed that two of the under-water craft lying at Zebrugg were damaged.

Beyond these attacks, the official reports contain little news today, and that which they do give relates only to operations of minor importance.

Minor warfare has been at progress at many points in the west, and at other points there have been artillery duels and occasional infantry attacks, but nothing that in any way approached the proportions of a battle.

In the east the armies stand about as they were. The fighting in Northern Poland has been of a desultory character, both sides apparently having given up any idea of advancing for the present. In Central Poland, however, the Russians are showing a certain liveliness.

The German official reports for the last two days have noted attempts of the Russian troops to resume the offensive on the Rawa river, while Vienna tonight reports a severe attack by the Russians in the vicinity of the Pilica river, which they claim to have repulsed.

These movements doubtless have been undertaken to prevent the Austrians and Germans from sending reinforcements from this front to reinforce the armies which are trying to hold the Carpathian passes against the onslaught of the Russians, who daily report the capture of a large number of prisoners, but who apparently are making very slow headway in the operations against Lupkow and Uzsok Passes. The Russians also are slowly pushing the Turks back in the Caucasus.

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BRITISH HOLD LINE OF TRENCHES 30 MILES LONG

Enemy Unable to Drive Them From Position Where They Dug Themselves In After Famous Charge From Heights of the Aisne—Lived and Fought in Seas of Mud—Sir Max Aitken, Eye-Witness With the Canadian Troops in France, Describes a Visit to the Trenches.

Ottawa, April 2.—The government tonight received the second instalment of Sir Max Aitken's reports of his visits to the lines of the British army in Belgium and northern France. "The Business of War," is the caption under which the Canadian Record Officer, who was with a party of press representatives, writes. His despatch follows:

Canadian Divisional Headquarters in Flanders, April 2.

"You can picture our army in the field spread out like a fan. The long, wavy edge of the fan is the line of men in the firing trenches, at the very forefront of affairs, often within a stone's throw of the opposing German line. Some hundreds of yards behind this firing line lie the support trenches, also filled with men. The men in the firing and supporting trenches exchange places every forty-eight hours. After a four days' spell they all retire for four days rest, fresh troops taking their places, as they move out. At the end of their four days rest they return again to the trenches. All relieving movements are carried out in the dark to avoid the enemy's rifle fire.

"Further back, along the ribs of the fan, one finds the headquarters of the many brigades; behind these, headquarters of divisions; then headquarters of army corps, then of armies—the groups becoming fewer and fewer in number as you proceed—until at the end of the fan handle one reaches the general headquarters, where Field Marshal Sir John French stands, with his hand on the dynamo which sends its impulses through every part of the great machine spread out in front.

The War Office is the Field.

From general headquarters the moves of the entire British army, or rather of the several British armies, are directed and controlled. It is a war office in the field, with numerous branches closely co-ordinated and working together like a single machine. Here is the operations office, where plans of attack are worked out under the direction of the Field Marshal and his chief of staff.

From a neighboring office the quartermaster general controls the movements of food and fodder for men and horses, and all other stores, other than actual munitions of war.

Photography Under Difficulties. Still another branch houses the director general of medical service, who supervises the treatment of the wounded from the field aid post to the field clearing station, from there to the hospital train, and thence to the base hospital in France or Great Britain.

One of the most fascinating spots at general headquarters is the map department. Thousands of maps of various kinds and sizes have been produced here since the war began. They vary from large maps, to be hung on walls, or spread on great tables, down to small slips—with a few lines of German trenches accurately outlined, handy for the use of battery and battalion commanders. Remarkable photographs are also printed here—panorama views and photographs of German positions, taken at very close quarters, often under fire. There are officers who specialize in this perilous and wonderful business of photography under fire.

As one goes forward from general headquarters towards the edge of the fan one comes in contact with more and more men, and realizes quickly that, in spite of months of trench warfare, our troops are superbly fit and ready for any task which the coming advance may impose on them.

Nearby is the building occupied by "the signals," branch, which with its nerve system of telegraphs, telephones and motor cycle dispatch riders, is the medium of communication with every part of the field, and also with the base of supplies and the war office in London. "Signals" carries its wires to within rifle shot of the trenches, and every division of the army has its own field telephone from battalions' headquarters to the firing line.

Close at hand is the office of the intelligence branch, which collects and communicates information about the enemy from every source it can tap. It receives and compares reports of statements made by prisoners. It interrogates some prisoners itself. It goes through documents, letters, diaries, official papers—captured in the field—and extracts points from these. It collects news from its own agents—it is only your enemy who calls them spies—about events that are happening or are liable to happen behind the screen of the enemy's lines.

At general headquarters you find the department of the adjutant general, who is responsible for the whole of the arrangements—keeping the army in the field supplied with men and munitions of war, for transfer of all prisoners to the base for the trial of offences, if any, against discipline, and for the spiritual welfare of the troops.

At first the small towns, the villages and the many farm houses and cottages within easy reach of the firing line provided all the rest billets. A great many men are billeted in this way now. I found a company of territorials snugly resting in a huge barn, the officers having quarters in the farm house on the other side of the yard, but recently a large number of wooden huts have been put up in various places across the country, and here the men came back from the trenches to rest and rejuvenate. They are tired when they come "home," but a sound sleep, a wash, a hearty breakfast and a stroll in the fresh air—out of range of the insistent bullets—have a magic effect. In the afternoon you find them playing football as blithely as boys, and those who are not playing stand round

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MASTERS OF COASTERS MUST BE 21 YRS. OLD

Rules for Examination of Masters and Mates of Coasting Vessels are Amended.

Ottawa, April 1.—The regulations relating to the examination of masters and mates of inland and coasting vessels have been amended by order-in-council.

The following new definitions of masters and mates qualifications are given: Mate—"A candidate must be not less than 19 years of age and must have served two years at sea, or— (B)—He must have served one year as mate of a passenger or freight steamer on the Great Lakes, whilst holding a certificate of competency as mate on a passenger steamer on the inland waters.

Master—"A candidate must be not less than 21 years of age and must have served three years at sea, one year of which he must have served as mate whilst holding a mate's certificate, or— (B)—He must have served one year as master of a passenger or freight steamer on the Great Lakes, whilst holding a certificate of competency as master of a passenger steamer on the inland waters.

In seamanship—"In addition to the qualification for a mate, he will be required: (A)—To know how to act in a case of stranding. (B)—To answer any questions respecting currents and aids to navigation which the examiner may think proper to ask. (C)—To answer any other question the examiner may think necessary to ask him concerning the duties of a master of the particular class of sailing vessel or steamer for which he desires a certificate."

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2 MORE VICTIMS OF GERMAN SUBMARINES

A French and a British Steamer Sent to Bottom.

ONE OF VESSELS SUNK WITHOUT WARNING.

Thirty Members of the Crews Lose Their Lives When Steamers were Torpedoed.

New Haven, England, April 1.—The British steamer Seven Seas, of 622 tons, was torpedoed by a German submarine off Beachy Head this afternoon. The attack was without warning, and eleven of her crew of eight-hundred, including all the officers, except the second engineer, were drowned.

The steamer was bound from London for Liverpool. Such was the force of the explosion that the hatches were blown off, and a big hole was torn in the steamer's side, causing her to sink within three minutes.

The survivors, three of whom were injured, were landed here this evening by a destroyer.

London, April 1.—The French steamer Emma bound to Bordeaux was torpedoed Wednesday in the British Channel off Beachy Head by a German submarine. Nineteen members of her crew were drowned, only two being saved. The periscope of the submarine had hardly been sighted from the Emma when the torpedo from the under seas boat struck the Emma in the engine.

No warning of any kind was given. The ship foundered in three minutes from the time she was struck. A British destroyer subsequently picked up two men who had been in the water for a couple of hours, and at the same time recovered two bodies. The Emma had a crew of 21 men. All the others lost their lives.

FRIENDS SAY HE IS CITIZEN OF UN. STATES

Affidavits Filed to Prove Man Arrested on Charge of Setting Fire to French Liner, La Touraine, is an American.

Washington, April 1.—Ambassador Sharp, at Paris, was called upon by the State Department today for a report as to the circumstances surrounding the arrest of Raymond Swoboda, an American citizen charged with having set fire to La Touraine, a French liner, on her recent trip from New York to Havre. Friends of Swoboda in New York City had brought press reports of his arrest to the department's attention, and vouched for his American citizenship.

Swoboda's right to a passport he exhibited in New York and Paris already was under investigation by the Justice Department, the duplicate from the files of the State Department having been referred for that purpose. This, however, was regarded merely as a routine procedure, and there seemed to be no ground for doubting that the man was entitled to whatever protection the United States government extends to its citizens in similar circumstances.

R. K. MacLean, of New York, who is associated with Swoboda in purchasing supplies for sale to the allies, came to Washington today and filed with the State Department affidavits to prove Swoboda's citizenship. He had with him a letter written by Swoboda in Paris to Thomas Hooper, in New York, describing inconveniences resulting from the fire on La

Daring British Airmen Dropped Bombs On German Submarines

London, April 1.—Aeroplane attacks on German submarines at Hoboken and Zebrugg, Belgium, have been accomplished successfully, the British Admiralty announced tonight. The following statement was given out:

"The following report has been received from Wing Commander A. M. Longmore:

"I have to report that this morning Flight Sub-Lt. Frank M. Andrew carried out a successful air attack on the German submarines which are being constructed at Hoboken, near Antwerp, dropping four bombs.

"Also Flight Lt. J. P. Wilson, while reconnoitering over Zebrugg, observed two submarines lying alongside the Mole and attacked them, dropping four bombs with, it is believed, successful results.

"These officers started in the moonlight this morning. Both pilots returned safely."

LT.-COL. HURDMAN SUSPENDED PENDING AN INVESTIGATION

Charged that He Passed as Satis factory Inferior Binoculars and Was to Have Received Rake-off on the Deal — Appointed by Laurier Government in 1904.

Special to The Standard Ottawa, Ont., April 1.—Lieut. Colonel W. G. Hurdman, who was appointed by the late Liberal government, Inspector of trucks, wagons and hardware supplies for the Militia Department, was suspended this afternoon by General Hughes pending an investigation into allegations, charges and insinuations which have been made against him in the course of evidence given by witnesses in the Public Accounts Committee.

The chief incriminating evidence was regarding the purchase of binoculars for the Canadian soldiers. It has been stated that Col. Hurdman passed as satisfactory with regard to quality and price, a number of binoculars sup-

plied by T. M. Birkett of Ottawa, which are alleged to have been falsely invoiced as to quality and price. It has also been suggested that he was to get a rake-off on purchases. Col. Hurdman was appointed to his present position in 1904.

This is the second development of the inquiry into war supplies which is being conducted by the Public Accounts Committee. The first was the refunding of \$6,300 profits which E. Powell, an Ottawa drug clerk, made on medical supplies.

It is well understood that there will be some more spectacular moves on the part of the government to compel restitution by un patriotic and dishonest middlemen or contractors.

Official Reports

RUSSIA

Petrograd, April 1, via London, April 2, 1.13 a. m.—The war office tonight made public the following official communication:

"On the front, on the west bank of the Niemen, Wednesday, we gained an important success over the Germans. In the Kraska region, west of Simno, the enemy began a rapid retreat, obstinately pressed by our troops.

"In the Carpathians our offensive continues with very substantial results. On Tuesday, in the region of Volia, Niehova and Lutovska, our troops, wading through snow up to their loins, climbing almost perpendicular precipices and fighting their way through forests fortified with wire entanglements, dislodged the Austrians step by step from their trenches, and captured a series of fortified heights in the principal chain of Beskid mountains.

"In the direction of Buziaki despite the enemy's violent fire and the deep snow, we also drove the Austrians from their fortified positions to the west of Naslezn and southwest of Dvernikow.

"On Tuesday we captured, in the Carpathians, eighty officers and 5,600 men and four machine guns and fourteen other guns.

"In the direction of Schotin several Austrian battalions, holding a fortified position in the region of the villages of Sziloway and Maliney, were surrendered on March 30 and partially exterminated. We captured 1,500 of the survivors.

Touraine, and telling of saving some textile samples.

Mr. MacLean formerly was connected with the tariff board here as a textile expert.

It was pointed out tonight that, for the present, the State Department could do no more than instruct Ambassador Sharp to see that Swoboda gets a fair trial in the courts. Diplomatic negotiations would follow only in case the Ambassador there has reason for believing justice had not been accorded.

FRANCE

Paris, April 1.—The following official statement was issued by the French War Office tonight:

"There have been artillery duels at different points along the front in the Woerwa district. To the west of the forest of La Pretre we have occupied the village of Fey-En-Haye and have maintained our positions there despite several counter-attacks.

"In Lorraine and in the Vosges there is nothing to report.

"To the south of Bismude, Aviator Lt. Carros brought down an aeroplane by machine gun fire. In the region of the Aisne another German aviator was brought to the ground by the French aviator Navarre."

AUSTRIA

Vienna, via London, April 1.—The Austrian war office gave out the following statement tonight regarding the progress of the campaign:

"In the east Beskid the enemy during the night, attempted several attacks in the Laborca valley, which were repulsed. Between Lupkow ridge and Uzsok Pass the fighting continues.

"Near Inowidz, on the Pilica River, strong Russian forces this morning attacked our troops. After they had reached the wire entanglement the Russians were driven back with considerable losses.

"In the southern war theatre there has been no change.

"The open town of Orsova having been bombarded we replied by bombarding Belgrade."

AUSTRALIAN CRUISER

AT MONTEVIDEO

Montevideo, March 30.—The Australian cruiser Sydney, the war ship which destroyed the German cruiser Emden in the Indian Ocean last November, left this port today. She came in yesterday.

ELECTION BILL BEFORE HOUSE YESTERDAY

Proposal to Extend Voting Hours Rejected, But Employers Will be Required to Give Men Extra Hour With Pay.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, April 1.—Election laws were under discussion almost all day today. The proposal to extend the hours of polling was rejected, but a provision was inserted to require employers to give voters an additional hour's leave with pay on election day.

The proposal to simplify procedure in election trials met strong opposition from the Hon. William Pugsley, while F. B. Carvell and A. K. MacLean came to the support of the Minister of Justice in defence of the bill. Mr. Doherty declared that the heart of the bill was the provision that there should be one trial and only one trial, without preliminary objections, and that he was ready to accept amendments so long as that central advance was maintained.

Both the bill regarding elections and that regarding election trials were left in the committee stage and will come up for further discussion.

Ottawa, April 2.—The House this morning adopted a resolution for adjournment over Good Friday, with sittings on Saturday and Monday.

Hon. Louis Coderre informed Major Sam Sharpe that the total receipts of the Canadian Patriotic Fund were now \$3,496,918, the contributions by provinces being as follows: Quebec, including the C. P. R. contribution, \$1,399,554; Ontario, \$1,163,103; Nova Scotia, \$111,689; New Brunswick, \$121,971; Prince Edward Island, \$25,000; Manitoba, \$88,720; Alberta, \$149,837; Saskatchewan, \$141,623; British Columbia, \$141,763; Yukon, \$9,219. Citizens of the United States contributed \$7,632. The contributions from the larger cities were as follows: Montreal, including S. P. R. contribution, \$1,055,017; Toronto, \$466,380; Ottawa, \$286,698; Sherbrooke, \$17,305; Berlin, \$22,758.

On the second reading of Hon. C. J. Doherty's bill to amend the Dominion Election Act, considerable discussion took place upon the clause repealing the provision under which persons in Saskatchewan and Alberta may cast their votes, even though not on the list, if they swear they are entitled to do so.

Mr. MacLean of Halifax said he had been inclined to favor the repeal of the Saskatchewan and Alberta privilege, because he had not believed in the enrollment of voters on election day. However, he had since come to the conclusion that if the amendment were adopted there should be provision for the adoption of the provincial lists for federal elections.

Mr. Bennett of Calgary said that the existing law served first to limit the exercise of the franchise by those entitled to it, and secondly to permit corruption of the worst kind. Men could be brought in from a western constituency in large numbers, could be sworn, voted and spirited away. Under the present law enumerators who made the list might be violent partisans.

At the last election he had even been left off the list himself. Men after some further discussion the section was dropped.

The committee then took up the clauses providing that polling places shall be kept open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m., and that employers shall grant their employees an hour on election day, in addition to the noon hour without deduction from their wages. Mr. A. K. MacLean explained the numerous suggestions as to the hours for polling which had been made to the special committee. One of these was that the polls should be open for twenty-four hours. He said that the extension of time proposed in the bill was intended to give certain classes of workers, for instance, railway men opportunities for casting their votes.

Mr. Nesbitt, of North Oxford, failed to see how the change would help the railway men and Mr. Proulx of Prescott, thought that it would be of value to persons living at a distance from the polls.

Mr. A. C. McDonald said that Canada was behind other countries in respect to the facilities provided to electors to exercise their franchise. Half of the corruption which took place in

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