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VOL. XXXVI—No. 12,946

The Toronto World

250,000 RUSSIAN TROOPS WILL BE BROUGHT TO FRANCE British Inflict Heavy Losses on Turks in Mesopotamia COL. ALLISON DECLARES READINESS TO FACE ALL CHARGES

COL. ALLISON DENIES CHARGES OF GRAFT IN WAR CONTRACTS

"I am Poorer Than When War Began" He Declares and Professes Entire Ignorance of Existence of Rake-off Pact and Other Alleged Deals.

OTTAWA, April 21.—The Evening Free Press. In a lengthy despatch from Ogdensburg, N.Y., gives a detailed interview with Col. John Wesley Allison, who is wanted in Ottawa in connection with the fuse contracts and other matters. Ogdensburg is just across the St. Lawrence River from Prescott, the home town of the colonel, who denies that he has done anything wrong, and says he is coming to Ottawa to give evidence before the Meredith-Duff commission.

The despatch is as follows:
Col. Allison reached Ogdensburg this morning accompanied by his wife and daughter. He came from Sea Breeze, Long Island, to meet his counsel, Thomas Spratt, of Ogdensburg, and George F. Henderson, K.C., of Ottawa. Mr. Henderson came from Ottawa to meet his client, Mr. Spratt lives in Ogdensburg.

Laden With Documents.
Col. Allison got off the train and arrived at the Seymour House with a jumbo suitcase, which from the manner in which it was bent the porter, must have been jammed with papers.
He was surprised to be saluted by a newspaper man, but promised to submit to a statement as soon as he had time to get breakfast.

It appeared counts, Col. Allison has been pretty sick and is yet far from well. He is as yellow as a duck's foot, walks with evidence of weakness and speaks with an effort. He tired quickly under the bombardment of questions put to him.
What will happen to him under the fire to which the public accounts committee subjects witnesses and the questioning of counsel before the Davidson and the Meredith-Duff commissions remains to be seen. In any event, he will be in Ottawa within a week to face the ordeal.

"You are going on to Ottawa to give evidence," Col. Allison was asked.
"Yes, I am going to Ottawa to give evidence. I shall go on from Ogdensburg as soon as I am wanted in Ottawa."
"Do you expect to appear before the public accounts committee and Davidson commission as well as the Meredith-Duff royal commission?"
"I shall go before them all if they call me before them."

(Continued on Page 2, Column 5).

Visit of Col. Allison Gave Prescott Surprise

Colonel and Counsel Arrived for Few Minutes Consultation With Local Solicitor and Then Hastened Back to Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Special to The Toronto World.
PRESCOTT, Ont., April 21.—Col. J. Wesley Allison made an entirely unexpected visit to Prescott today, accompanied by G. F. Henderson, K.C. He arrived from Ogdensburg, N.Y., at 4:45 p.m. and visited the office of a prominent local solicitor who afterwards stated that the conference dealt with matters other than war contracts. Col. Allison was evidently in poor health. He returned to Ogdensburg on the 5 p.m. boat.

FRENCH AEROPLANES RAID Foe's POSITIONS

Three Successful Attacks Made on Germans Near Greek Border.

MANY BOMBS DROPPED

Enemy Flyers Attacked British Camp at Tenedos, Causing Casualties.

PARIS, April 21.—Three more raids by squadrons of French aeroplanes on German positions near the Greek border are reported in a Havas despatch from Saloniki. On Monday night, French aeroplanes bombarded the German camps at Negotin, Serbia, and Podgoritz, Montenegro. On Tuesday night other French machines dropped bombs on the barracks at Gievoll. The German hangars at Negotin, the supply station at Strumitza and the camp at Padagusi were attacked on Thursday night.
The despatch says many bombs proved to be effective.
A news agency despatch from Athens today says German flyers bombarded a British camp at Tenedos Wednesday, causing several casualties, according to advices received here today.

DEATH SUMMONS HEAD OF FIRST TURK ARMY

Von der Goltz Dies of Spotted Fever at His Headquarters.

BIG LOSS TO GERMANY

Baron Was Regarded as One of Kaiser's Greatest Strategists.

AMSTERDAM, via London, April 21.—Baron "Koltzi" Von der Goltz, commander-in-chief of the first Turkish army, died Wednesday of spotted fever at the headquarters of his Turkish army, according to an official announcement received here from Berlin. He had been ill 10 days.
Field Marshal Von der Goltz was regarded as one of Germany's greatest strategists. He was 69 years of age. He had seen extensive military service, having fought in the Austrian campaign and on the staff of Prince Frederick Charles in the Franco-Prussian war. In 1883 he was sent to reconstruct the Turkish army and remained in Turkey for 13 years.
In August, 1914, he was appointed military governor of the occupied part of Belgium, but in November of the same year he was sent to Turkey, where he was appointed military commander at Constantinople and acting minister of war. He was instrumental in forming the strong Turkish defence on the Gallipoli Peninsula.
He received his command as chief of the Turkish army in April of last year, when he succeeded Gen. Liman Von Sanders in command of the Dardanelles army.
Recent despatches reported Field Marshal Von der Goltz as engaged in the operations in Asiatic Turkey. Before the fall of Sirerum he was stationed in that Turkish stronghold with 50,000 Turks.

ENEMY HURLED BACK IN HEAVY VERDUN ONSET

French Also Capture Trench in Callette Wood, West of Meuse.

BOMBARDMENT SHARP

Hundred and Fifty Germans Taken Near Mort Homme Position.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

LONDON, April 21.—In the operations before Verdun both sides are on the offensive, with the balance of gains on the side of the French who captured a trench west of the Meuse and beat off a German attack east of the river. The offensive was conducted by the French in the Carrières Wood, le Mort Homme region, and the trench captured was in the northern outskirts of this wood, four officers and 150 men of the German force being taken prisoner. The attack by the Germans on the eastern bank of the Meuse was very powerful, and after gaining a foothold in the lines south of Fort Douaumont and north of the Vanh Pond, from which they were immediately thrown out, they were repulsed along the whole line of a mile and a quarter attacked between Thiaumont Farm and beyond. The French took some prisoners and two machine guns. They also made progress in some operations west of Douaumont, where they rescued some French prisoners and captured about 20 Germans.

The Germans admitted that stubborn infantry fighting was being carried on before Verdun, and claimed that the French in attacks were repulsed.
Violent Bombardments.
Violent bombardment of the new French positions at le Mort Homme on the western bank of the Meuse and of the French positions lying between the left bank of the river and Fort St. Mielle was carried out by the Germans today. In the attacks there was a violent cannonade in the sector between Chailion and Ronvaux. In the Argonne the French occupied the northern rim of a crater made by the explosion of a German mine at Haut Chevauchee.
The station of Vigneulle northwest of St. Mielle was shelled by a French long-range gun. Convoys proceeding along the road from La Marche to Nonard, north of Regnierville, were shelled by French batteries.
The Belgians report the fighting of artillery actions at various points, and especially at Dixmude.

INFANTRY FIGHTS GAIN ITALIAN PRISONERS

Successful Air Raid Against Trieste Hydroplane Station.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

LONDON, April 21.—Small infantry engagements in the upper Astico and Sugana Valleys and on the upper Cordevole fought by the Italians gained ground today. Several Italian Caprone aeroplanes raided the Austrian hydroplane station at Trieste and dropped bombs, causing visible disaster to their target.

THREE THOUSAND TURKS FELL IN BIG ATTACK UPON BRITISH

Great Number Also Wounded When Enemy Blundered on Tigris River—Many German Leaders Killed in Charge.

LONDON, April 21.—The recent attack of the Turks on the British forces along the Tigris, in Mesopotamia, was made by about 10,000 men and cost them heavy losses. An official account of the battle, supplementing the earlier reports from the front of one of our brigades, was given out today as follows:
"The enemy made his attack on the 17th and 18th with some 10,000 men, comprising one whole division and portions of two others. They came on in dense formation and penetrated part of our front. Within 500 yards of the front of one of our brigades alone 1200 to 1500 dead Turks were counted."
It is reported they are lying thick

QUARTER OF MILLION RUSSIANS WILL BE BROUGHT TO FRANCE

MEXICAN PROBLEM STILL UNSOLVED AT WASHINGTON

Wilson Cabinet Discussed Situation Yesterday, But Decided to Defer Action Pending Gen. Scott's Report.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—President Wilson and the cabinet discussed the Mexican situation today, but decided on no course of action. Further steps by the United States toward the pursuit of Villa or withdrawal of the troops from Mexico will await a full report from Major-General Scott, chief of staff of the army, as to conditions on the border and in Mexico.

GERMANY WILL NOT SURRENDER OUTLOOK GRAVE

No Flourishes Marked Presentation of U. S. Note to Von Jagow.

REPLY IN FEW DAYS?

Washington Expects an Answer About Middle of Next Week.

BERLIN, April 20, via London, April 21.—As far as the Associated Press has been made acquainted with the sentiment in higher quarters, it would be wrong to regard the situation as anything but extremely grave. The note probably will be answered some time next week, after serious consideration has been given the American contention, but there is little hope that any answer can go to the length demanded by the Washington Government, despite the fact that the government desires to maintain good relations with the United States.
The sentiment is against any further weakening of Germany's submarine campaign, to say nothing of an abandonment of it.

ITALIANS SEIZE POINTS ALONG GREEK BORDER

Position at Thanassi, Fagheon and Kiorka Heights Being Fortified.

ATHENS, Greece, April 21, via Paris, April 21.—Italian forces have occupied Thanassi, Fagheon and Kiorka Heights in northern Epirus near the Greek-Albanian frontier. They are fortifying these positions with heavy artillery.

BRITISH DISPERSE PARTY OF ENEMY AT ST. ELOI

Mining Activity, Trench Mortar Work and Artillery Duels Continue.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, April 21.—The only infantry fighting reported from the British front tonight was the dispersing of a party of Germans who had left their trenches near St. Eloi. Mining activity raged near Pricourt, Souchez, Hulluch and Ginchy. Trench mortar fighting became quite extensive and intensive south of Arras, and rival artillery fought duels between Souchez and La Bassée Canal and about Ypres.

COUNT VON HASSELER IS MADE SCAPEGOAT

His Recall to Berlin Is Sequel to Failure of Verdun Offensive.

LONDON, April 21.—A Morning Post despatch from Bern says: Field Marshal Count Von Hasseker, who has been the crown prince's guide and inspiring spirit since the beginning of the war, has been recalled from the western front and has arrived in Berlin.
"The supreme military authorities have selected him as the scapegoat for the failure of the attacks on Verdun."

IMMIGRATION BILL VIRTUALLY EXCLUDES MIKADO'S SUBJECTS ALONG WITH HINDUS.

Objections Renewed But Wilson Cabinet is Hopeful of Avoiding Serious Friction.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Japan has renewed her objections to provisions in the pending immigration bill which are construed as virtually excluding into law the celebrated Root-Takahara agreement for the restriction of immigration to the United States and as including Japanese with Hindus in an excluded class.
The administration, it is said today, fears no difficulty in arranging the terms of the bill, but is anxious to avoid wounding Japanese feeling, and to that end President Wilson soon will confer with house and senate leaders.
Viscount Chinda, the Japanese ambassador, who already has left two memoranda with the state department on the subject, conferred today with President Wilson by appointment, which was made 10 days ago. The administration, while realizing the extent of Asiatic exclusion in the Pacific Coast states, is described as being sensible of the disadvantages of agitation and delay, and is content that the matter can be smoothed out satisfactorily to all interests.
Would Avoid Friction.
Japan's revival of the question at this time attracted much interest in the capital, but it was pointed out that her representations could scarcely be delayed, if it were desired to do so, because the bill already has passed the house and has been reported to the senate for passage.
For many obvious reasons the attitude of the administration is said to be one of disinclination to irritate the situation between Japan and the United States, which has been smouldering since the California anti-alien

U. S. INTENT TO BAR JAPANESE REVIVES ISSUE

But Wilson Cabinet is Hopeful of Avoiding Serious Friction.

ARTILLERY POUNDS AT IKSKULL BRIDGEHEAD

Russians Silence Batteries of Germans—Pursuit of Turks Continued.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, April 21.—In Russia, the fighting reported today consisted of an artillery bombardment of the Ikskull bridgehead by both small and great guns of the enemy, which were in part silenced by the Russian counter-fire. An artillery duel also raged in the Jacobstad region. Attacks of the Germans were of Olyka were repulsed before the storming columns got up to the Russian trenches, and strenuous attacks of the enemy, which were in part repulsed, were reported from the district west of Strerum.

THIS IS MEN'S DAY.

The Dineen Company have established Saturday as Men's Hat Day in Toronto. "A man always thinks of buying a new hat some time on Saturday, and most of the man's hats that are sold on Saturday come from Dineen's. Absolutely the largest stock of made-in-Canada and imported men's hats to be found in any retail store in Toronto. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, corner Temperance street."

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

FRENCH authorities at Marseilles allowed it to be known yesterday that possibly a quarter of a million Russian troops will be transported from the eastern to the western theatre of the war this spring. They decline to permit the mention of the number of Russian soldiers already in France, and they are also keeping secret the port of embarkation. The news of the safe arrival of these men in France was officially announced in Petrograd in the following words: "The war brotherhood of the French and Russian armies has been strengthened by the arrival of Russian troops at Marseilles."

A quarter of a million men is too large a force to be transferred from the east to the west out of sentiment; its transportation involves too many difficulties, risks and expense to be undertaken lightly as a mere demonstration of allied solidarity. Of course, it is in a general measure, a great vindication of the fact that the allies will stand or fall together. The troops are intended to bring the allied strength in France and Flanders up to a certain maximum. That is, the allied general staffs estimate that they require a certain reserve of men to prevent defeat or to administer a knock-out to the Germans. But, as it is reckoned that the allies now have an ample number of men for the defensive, this prospective ample reinforcement can only signify that they are planning to take the offensive.

The increase in allied strength brought about in the western theatre of the war by the arrival of these Russians and the prospective arrival of many more, furnishes a renewed problem to the German general staff. What if the allies should bring round a million Russians by mid-summer? It would be positively dangerous for the Germans to permit the forces of the allies to exceed their own forces by fifty per cent. in the west. Here is Turkey clamoring for assistance. If help is sent to her, with these additional Russians—found men, because equipped and munitioned by the allies—menacing the German position in Belgium, how can the Germans spare men from the west to help Turkey or to help Bulgaria and Austria in their hours of need? As Russia can easily mobilize, all told, ten or twelve million men, provided that there is equipment for them, the Germans have a great

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(Continued on Page 2, Columns 1 and 2.)

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