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FRIDAY MORNING MAY 26 1916—FOURTEEN PAGES

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RUSSIANS EFFECT JUNCTION WITH BRITISH AT KUT

THE FRENCH CHECK A POWERFUL ATTACK NORTH OF VERDUN

Irish Leaders Welcome Conference to Settle Problem

GENERAL ARMY SERVICE GIVEN ROYAL ASSENT

Signature of King Affixed to Military Service Bill.

PATRIOTISM PRAISED

Five Million Volunteers Raised in Britain During War.

LONDON, May 25.—The signature of King George was today affixed to the military service bill recently passed by parliament.

In giving the royal sanction to the bill, King George issued the following message to the nation:

"To enable our country to organize more effectively its military resources in the present great struggle for the cause of civilization, I have, acting on the advice of my ministers, deemed it necessary to enroll every able-bodied man between the ages of 18 and 41.

"I desire to take this opportunity of expressing to my people my recognition and appreciation of the splendid patriotism and self-sacrifice they displayed in raising by voluntary enlistment since the commencement of the war no less than 5,041,000 men—an effort far surpassing that of any other nation in similar circumstances recorded in history and one which will be a lasting source of pride to future generations.

"I am confident the magnificent spirit which has hitherto sustained my people thru the trials of this terrific war will inspire them to endure the additional sacrifice now imposed upon them, and that it will, with God's help, lead us and our allies to a victory which shall achieve the liberation of Europe."

FRENCH DRO BOMBS ON BASES IN SERBIA

PARIS, May 25.—French aeroplanes operating from the lines of the entente allies south of the Macedonian border, dropped bombs yesterday morning on Xanthi, Veles and Uskup, Serbia, inflicting considerable damage, according to a Havas despatch from Athens.

LABOR WANTS A VOICE IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

Dockers' Union in Britain Endorses American Federation of Labor's Proposal.

LONDON, May 26—The Dockers' Union has given its enthusiastic endorsement to the proposal of the American Federation of Labor that at the same time and place of the negotiations for peace, there shall be a world's labor congress, "so that labor shall have a voice in the terms of settlement with the object of putting forth efforts to make war impossible in the future."

The Dockers' Union will urge the proposal on all other British labor bodies.

CANADIAN CAPTIVES FAIRLY WELL FED

Chief Desires Are Footballs, Boxing Gloves and Other Sporting Gear.

PARCELS ARE RECEIVED

Col. Noel Marshall Confers in London on Red Cross Work.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

LONDON, May 25.—Col. Noel Marshall of Toronto conferred with Col. Hodgetts and Mrs. Rivers Bulkely of the prisoners of war department of the Canadian Red Cross today, when it was decided in view of the questions raised in the house of commons regarding the scant rations given to prisoners in German camps to issue a statement of reassurance to relatives and friends of interned Canadians and those interested in Red Cross work that all parcels which the society sends out continue to be safely and promptly received. A number of acknowledgments of the safe arrival of food and clothing have been received this week, and are dated May 8. No complaints have reached the Canadian Red Cross. One writer speaks of the camp at Hanover as good, and adds:

"What we greatly need is sporting gear, footballs, boxing gloves, etc., and if you can do anything for us we shall be grateful."

In this camp there are 400 British troops, most of whom are Canadians.

LLOYD GEORGE TO DEAL WITH IRISH AFFAIRS

Redmond, Carson and O'Brien Express Willingness to Get Together.

STRONG APPEAL MADE

Premier Asquith's Eloquent Speech Met With Splendid Response.

LONDON, May 25.—David Lloyd eGorge, stepping temporarily from the ministry of munitions to a sort of round table conference to settle the Irish difficulty, is a striking illustration of how at all the great crisis and emergencies during the war this statesman has come to the front as a strong man and saviour of the country. In the early days of the war he gained an enviable reputation in the eyes of the men of all parties for his capable handling of the nation's finances, and then came to the rescue in the military emergency as head of the ministry of munitions to provide the army with shells.

Lately it was undoubtedly his forceful personality which converted the country, in the face of the strongest opposition, to universal military service. Now he steps into the breach to solve one of the most difficult political problems ever presented to British statesmen—to reconcile the apparently irreconcilable sections of the Irish people and establish home rule in Ireland.

The house of commons has rarely seen a demonstration of greater unity than was displayed this afternoon when the leaders of all factions flocked to the standard of the prime minister in an effort to achieve a lasting settlement of the Irish question.

Preliminary Discussions.

How soon Mr. Lloyd George will be able to arrange a formal conference and exactly what shape the conference will take is still unknown. He has been engaged for some days in informal talks preparatory to such a conference, and it is understood that, besides John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, and Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster leader, the conference will include Herbert Samuel, the home secretary, who had much to do with framing the finance clauses of the Home Rule Act. Other names mentioned are John Dillon and Joseph Devlin. It is asserted that the proceedings of the conference will be quite confidential and that the place of meeting will be Mr. Lloyd George's private room at the ministry of munitions in Whitehall.

In the parliamentary lobbies today, a feeling of optimism prevailed that the circumstances under which the parties are being called together offer a fair chance of settlement.

Premier Asquith made the announcement today in the course of an appeal for settlement by mutual concessions. His request that debate on the issue be deferred was assented to by John Redmond, Sir Edward Carson and William O'Brien, recognized Irish leaders. Laurence Ginell, Nationalist, conspicuous for his series of outbursts in the past, tried to speak, but quickly subsided under evident disapproval of his colleagues.

Disappointment was expressed by Mr. Redmond and Mr. O'Brien over the premier's request that silence should be observed for the present, but the former gave assurance that if the proposed conference failed it would not be thru unreasonable conduct on the part of the Nationalists. Sir Edward Carson expressed full readiness to respond to the appeal of the premier.

Baron Stamfordham, private secretary to King George, was present and listened closely to Premier Asquith's speech. He departed immediately afterward and returned to the palace to report to the King. Baron Wimborne, lord lieutenant of Ireland, also was present.

Altho it was generally understood that the prime minister would

(Continued on Page 12, Column 5).

SIR GEORGE FOSTER GOING TO ENGLAND

He Will Represent Dominion in Number of Trade Matters.

By a Staff Reporter.

OTTAWA, May 25.—Sir George Foster leaves tomorrow afternoon for England. He will be away for six or eight weeks and will represent the Dominion on a variety of trade and economic matters. If there is another commercial conference of the allies Sir George will attend. He will meet over there the Canadian delegation invited by the Interparliamentary Union to visit the western front in France and Flanders. The Canadian M.P.'s sail about the end of June.

It is understood that Sir George Foster and Hon. T. Chas. Casgrain will cross on the same boat.

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS FUTURE TRADE POLICY

Declaration May Be Made to British Dominions of Program.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

LONDON, May 25.—In the house of commons today, Sir Richard Cooper asked the colonial secretary whether the overseas dominions had made representations to him regarding the importance of declaring to the dominions what trade policy the government proposed to pursue after the war.

Bonar Law replied that no such representation had been made officially, but the whole matter was being carefully considered.

SHELLS RAINING ON VIMY RIDGE

Scene of Triumph of Lancashire Battalions is Vividly Described.

POSITION NOT TENABLE

British Had to Retire to Second Line Trenches Following Success.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, May 25.—(Via London.)—The success of two Lancashire battalions in gaining a footing on Vimy Ridge on May 15, following the explosion of mines, resulted in a formidable operation by the Germans. The British success was a matter of local initiative, which turned out perfectly. After six days of concentration and other preparation the Germans followed a prolonged bombardment with a heavy attack, forcing the retirement of the British to their second line trenches along 1500 yards of front.

From a point on the front nearby, the correspondent was able today to see the crest of the now uneven line outlined against the horizon, with the mine-torn earth still being kneaded by shells, which was the scene of these sensational operations. This line commands the plain of Lens and was the object of a vigorous allied drive during the battle of Loos. Visible also were the warrens of the famous labyrinth and the ruins of Neuville St. Vaast, which the French won in their offensive last spring, while like dusty ribbons across the land lay the present lines of trenches in this region, which shares with Verdun and the Ypres salient the fame of the most terrific battles on the western front.

With the guns steadily pounding as the fighting continued, the glasses revealed on occasional man coming out of the dugouts during the lulls, but otherwise the scene was lifeless to the eye.

ITALIANS REPULSE ENEMY'S ATTACKS

Four Efforts of Austrians Receive Severe Checks.

RENEW BIG BATTLE

Foes Determined to Force Issue on Trentino Frontier.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

ROME, May 25.—Coming up with their artillery to the main defensive positions of the Italians in the Trentino, the Austrians launched no fewer than four violent attacks last night and this morning and they were repulsed with heavy losses.

In the Lagarina valley the Austrians bombarded intensely the Italian positions at Coni Zugna, by night and launched two attacks in the direction of Serra Valley and Col di Buole. These were vigorously repulsed and they were followed up by an attack with fresh troops against Col di Buole. This fared like the succeeding ones and the Italians followed up the retreating enemy and reoccupied the height of Darmesan, southeast of the Col di Buole.

After keeping the Italian positions at Pasubio, between Val Arsa and Posina, under a heavy bombardment the Austrians launched a night attack with strong columns of infantry. These were mowed down by the fire of the defense.

The Austrians have unmasked their heavy artillery along the Monte Maggio-Toraro line, between Posina and Astico, and the Italian guns responded to its bombardment.

ALLISON DENIES MAKING PROFIT IN CARTRIDGES

Lewis of Montreal Gave Commission on Non-Canadian Transactions.

FOUR THOUSAND CASH

Colonel Silent as to Reason for Code of Business Ethics.

By a Staff Reporter.

OTTAWA, May 25.—Col. J. Wesley Allison was examined for two hours tonight by H. H. Dewart, K.C., representing the Liberal party in the Davidson inquiry into the sale of small arms ammunition. Col. Allison said that in this transaction he represented Sir Thomas Dawson, who represented the British Government. When questioned by Mr. Dewart, Allison said he had made no previous inquiries, and had no previous knowledge of ammunition in Canada that could be purchased. He did not know that the ammunition that was purchased was defective, nor did he fix the price.

He declared that he made absolutely no profit on this purchase of 37,000,000 rounds. His friendship with General Hughes, he added, had nothing to do with his participation in the negotiations for this ammunition.

Between these negative statements and Col. Allison's inability to remember many things, Mr. Dewart was unable to accomplish much by his examination. Allison could not recollect his application for 27,000, which he failed to obtain last November.

Received $4000 Cash.

The witness told of getting $4000 from Mr. Orr Lewis of the Canadian Vickers, Limited, but he said that this came from Mr. Lewis as trustee for the British authorities in connection with purchases made in the United States. He could not tell why he was referred to as the representative of Vickers, Limited, in certain memoranda of the militia department.

Neither J. A. Hutcheson, counsel for the commission nor Mr. Henderson examined Col. Allison, and the enquiry adjourned till Monday, June 12, when Mr. Dewart intimated one day might finish it.

MYSTERIOUS ORE PUZZLES POLICE

Supposed Cobalt Prospector Arrested in Toronto on Theft Charge.

QUARTZ WAS REFINED

No One Can Tell How It Was Transported to the City.

An echo of the "high-grading" which followed the Cobalt silver rush was heard yesterday afternoon, when Jas. McGale, who told the police he was a prospector from Cobalt, was arrested on a charge of stealing a large quantity of silver ore from the Cobalt district. He was arrested at an assayer's office down town by Inspector Greer of the provincial police and Detective Cronin of the local detective department.

A week ago the police were given the hint that a shipment of silver ore was to be made to Toronto, and they lay in wait for the shippers. The quartz came in three stout wooden boxes, and weighed over a hundred pounds. When the police arrived at the place of arrest, some of the ore had been refined, leaving a small silver "pig." How the ore was transported here is a mystery, since enquiry of railroad and express officials has elicited the fact that there is no record of shipment.

Papers found in McGale's possession, the police say, suggest that he was a poolroom keeper in Cobalt. His brother was convicted of a similar charge some time ago.

CANADIANS EXEMPTED FROM CONSCRIPTION

Certificates Will Be Granted Bonafide Applicants by Perley.

Canadian Associated Press Cable.

LONDON, May 25.—Regarding the position of Canadians residing here under the military service bill, the secretary to the high commissioner states that they have secured the insertion of a proviso exempting Canadian subjects from the bill. Arrangements for putting this into operation have been completed, and where the high commissioner is satisfied as to the bonafides of an applicant he will issue a certificate enabling the military authorities to grant exemption.

BRITISH SMASH FOE WATER TANKS

Royal Flying Corps Upsets Turk Plans on Egyptian Frontier.

GERMANS SUFFERED

Teutons Experienced Naval Bombardment at El-Arish.

LONDON, May 26.—A British official communication issued late last night concerning the operations in Egypt, says:

"Since the enemy air attack on Port Said, the Royal Flying Corps in Egypt has given the enemy little rest. Four British machines have heavily bombarded enemy advance posts. Forty bombs were dropped, resulting in buildings and a plant at El-Hamma being seriously damaged and the water tanks at Rodhsalem being smashed. This will upset the whole plan of the enemy, as since the destruction of his drilling plant at Jifjaffa by our patrols, he had set great store on the Rodhsalem waterworks.

"It has now been learned that the column of troops which suffered by our bombing attack on El-Arish on the 18th were Germans. This probably explains their hasty retaliation by dropping bombs on Port Said civilians. Further details show that two British monitors and a sloop fired 34 heavy projectiles in the attack on El-Arish, causing the enemy camp to scatter in all directions among the palm groves near shore, which afterwards were thoroly searched by salvoes of medium shells. The bombardment lasted two hours, and the strong fort in the town was reduced to ruins. The enemy, completely demoralized, made no reply to our fire."

OFFERED LETTERS FROM THE GERMAN EMBASSY

Dutchman Went to British Official, Who Caused His Arrest.

NEW YORK, May 25.—A man giving the name of Adolph De Leeuw, 34 years old, a native of Holland, was arrested tonight by Capt. Tunney, head of the bomb squad of the New York police, charged with revealing the contents of government documents and offering them for sale in violation of the penal law.

De Leeuw is accused of offering to reveal to Capt. Guy Gaunt, naval attache of the British embassy, the contents of seven letters, four of which bore the seal of the Imperial German Embassy at Washington.

Capt. Tunney alleges that De Leeuw, whose arrest was caused by Capt. Gaunt, confessed he offered the letters for sale because of financial embarrassment.

CROWN OF GOLD WILL BE GIVEN TO VENIZELOS

Electors of Mitylene Eager to Show Love for Great Leader.

PARIS, May 25.—The electors of Mitylene, the home of former Premier Venizelos of Greece, have opened a subscription, which already has reached the sum of 30,000 drachmas, with the object of presenting to M. Venizelos, their deputy in the Greek Chamber, a crown of gold, set with precious stones, says a Havas despatch from Athens under date of May 24.

YOU'LL BE NEEDING A STRAW HAT.

Almost any time now is the right time for a man to appear in a new straw hat. Adds to the appearance, to say nothing of the comfort. All the new styles have arrived. We are looking for a big day today. Friday is always men's hat day at Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

FRENCH CHECK FOE'S ATTACKS ABOUT VERDUN

Hold Up Offensive Between Thiaumont Farm and Haudremont Wood.

ENEMY TAKES TRENCH

German Groups Effect Lodgment in Small Section.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.

LONDON, May 25.—Towards the end of the day violent fighting which had subsided for a time broke out against the French lines between Haudremont wood and the Thiaumont farm when the Germans launched a series of offensive actions. Except at one point, where enemy groups occupied a section of French trenches, Paris reported tonight that all these attacks were repulsed.

In the region of Fort Douaumont the artillery actions continue with great violence on both sides. A French long range gun set fire to a German supply depot at Haudicourt, northeast of St. Mihiel. On the western bank of the Meuse the activity of the German artillery increased against the positions of the French on Hill 304.

In an aerial fight a French machine brought down a Fokker. It fell within the German lines to the north of Vaux. In the region of Etain one of the French squadrons fought a battle with German aeroplanes and compelled two of the enemy's machines to make a landing after they were seriously hit.

During the night French infantry made progress with hand grenades in the groves immediately east of Cumieres Village. The Germans made no endeavor to attack these parties. This stroke prevents the enemy from realizing any advantages which he would otherwise realize from the possession of the village.

On the eastern bank of the Meuse last night the Germans in a heavy attack gained a footing in a French trench north of the four corners at Haudremont. No infantry fighting is reported from the Douaumont region.

BRITISH BOMBARD TURKS ON TIGRIS

Artillery Now Commands Communications of Enemy.

JUNCTION EFFECTED

Russian Army Now Linked Up With Anglo-Indian Force.

LONDON, May 25.—The Turkish force confronting the British below Kut-el-Amara, in Mesopotamia, has not effected a further withdrawal since that reported recently incident to the realignment of the Turkish front after the surrender of Kut. The British, however, thru their advance on the right bank of the Tigris, have been able to command with their artillery the line of Turkish communications on the east bank, according to an official statement tonight, which says:

"Gen. Lake reports that on May 24 the enemy was still holding his positions on the left bank in the vicinity of Sannaiyat. Our artillery, from the right bank, has been maintaining an effective fire upon his communications along the left bank."

The Russians announce in an official statement issued at Petrograd today that their troops operating in the region of Kermanshah and Kasr-i-Shirin have effected a junction with the British forces on Tigris River below Kut-el-Amara. Their Cossacks reached the headquarters of the British commanding general on May 22.

The Turks assert in a statement issued at Constantinople that Russian forces whose advance from Persia on Khanikin was reported, were compelled to cease their advance in the region of the frontier. The Turks also claim that in a fight with Russian detachments observed on the Persian frontier, just north of Sulamanieh, they caused them to lose 200 men.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

EVIDENTLY relieved of immediate anxiety about the situation before Verdun as a result of the regaining of Fort Douaumont from the French, the enemy felt free to proceed with his offensive against Italy yesterday and so he shifted the scene of the furious fighting from the Verdun region to the Tyrol. Rome reports that violent attacks with large effectives were repulsed by Italian troops and that the Italians even gained some ground in the face of the enemy. As before Verdun the slaughter of hostile troops in the Trentino has already been enormous.

* * * * * *

As the enemy can no longer hope to achieve the breaking of the Italian line by a surprise blow, he is apparently committed here to an offensive like the offensive before Verdun, for by this time the Italians have collected a large reserve to feed the firing line and they will hardly be beaten while they have superior numbers in the field. So unless accident intervenes the contest will be long drawn out and will perhaps cease from common exhaustion. Thus it looks as if the Austrians were attempting, like the Germans, to forestall an offensive by forcing the western allies to exhaust their accumulation of shells. But the transfer of Lloyd George from the active supervision of the British munitions industry to the study of a domestic problem suggests that department is running smoothly at last. The allies in the west should no longer suffer from lack of shell.

* * * * * *

In such lavish use of his troops in attempting to force an early decision in the west the enemy is being lured to play into the hands of the allies. Germany and Austria-Hungary can hardly afford to sacrifice many hundreds of thousands more of their sons against an enterprising enemy, but with the men who manage the terrible Teutonic war machine, it is world power or downfall, and they are mad enough to do anything desperate to gain their ends. In the late heavy fighting before Verdun a quarter of a million men came out of their trenches and had their ranks decimated by the French machinery. Perhaps for a century Germany and Austria will suffer from the terrible losses sustained in this war.

* * * * * *

One motive that is probably inducing the Germans to fight so strenuously in the west is the attack of Britain and Russia on Turkey. They probably believe that France and Italy may also send contingents to fight the Turk, and they figure it out that by vigorous action in the west they may force the allies to retain all the troops possible in the main theatres

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