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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

French and Germans In Alsace Locked In The Grip of Battle

Victory For Joffre's Men But at Great Cost—Night Attacks the Regular Order of Events in Flanders—British in Artillery Duel With Enemy, 600 Cannon Engaged

Paris, March 23.—In the eastern foothills of the Vosges Mountains, near Hartmannswillerkopf, in Alsace, French and German troops are once again locked in the grip of battle.

French forces concentrated near Hartmannswillerkopf, which lies between Thann and Gebweiler, are trying to cut through to the railway line which runs into Muelhausen from the north and serves as the chief line of communication for Muelhausen.

Night attacks have become the regular order. Reports of such attacks come from West Flanders, the region of Arras and the Champagne district.

GERMAN BUSINESS MEN DISPIRITED; SEE DEFEAT London, March 23.—The Daily Telegraph says in a despatch from Copenhagen:

According to a prominent American business man, who was traveling last month in Germany, the commercial classes are very despondent regarding the issue of the war.

ALLIES AIRMEN ARE VERY ACTIVE Amsterdam, March 23.—In addition to the British air raid over Hoboken, aviators of the allies attacked several other places within the German lines in West Flanders.

At the German aviation camp at Gits, bombs destroyed several hangars and wounded some German soldiers.

FRANCE GENERAL DE LA RUE KILLED Paris, March 23.—General Rene Joseph de la Rue, chief of a division of the French army, was killed when he was struck in the head by a bullet while inspecting a trench at the front.

RUSSIANS HAVE TAKEN 230,000 PRISONERS SINCE JANUARY 21 Petrograd, March 23.—Since January 21 230,000 prisoners had been captured by the Russians in Galicia.

AT THE RANGE The leading scores in this week's competition at the rifle range, are as follows:

Standing—Pte. A. Harwood, 244; H. A. Buxton, 237; Fireman J. Walsh, 225. Boys—Standing, W. Blair, 228.

NOW, GENTLEMEN! The benches have been placed in position in King Square.

WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stuart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—The western cold wave continues to increase in energy, the outlook being quite cold for Ontario and Quebec.

Maritime—Fresh west to south winds, fine and mild today, showers on Friday.

MONTREAL SERGEANT GETS COMMISSION



W. H. Scott, who left with the first contingent as a sergeant of the 5th Royal Highlanders, and has recently been given a commission as lieutenant in the famous Black Watch.

It is announced that the public accounts committee this morning that E. Powell, clerk in the retail drug store of W. F. Garland, Conservative member, had refunded the \$2,000 profits from the drug transaction.

It is agreed that the investigation by the opposition brought in this committee should be the subject of a report to be made to the House.

Major McQuarrie admitted to the committee that in 1913 he signed an agreement or receipt for \$1,200 for the use of his influence with the minister of militia on behalf of the Gramm motor truck in the sale of three motor trucks.

Major McQuarrie was a member of the committee appointed to purchase trucks for the second contingent. The recommendation of this committee was not carried out.

W. F. Garland, M. P., said there had been no wrong doing intentionally, admitted that it may have been a mistake, and said he had advised Powell to return the money.

LOCAL NEWS OF MEN IN KHAKI St. John Attacked Today—Some Army Service Corps Men on Way Here

The fine weather today was taken advantage of by the military units here to conduct field days, both the 26th Battalion and the Army Service Corps having left the city early this morning on route marches.

Business Changes at the First of May Enlargements of Premises or Moves to Other Locations

The first of May will see a large number of changes in the business district and they are of especial interest at this time on account of the fact that most of them are due to the need of space by taking larger premises or indirectly resulting from such enlargements.

By her own admission, the woman accepted two hundred francs from the Germans to enter the French lines and obtain information.

Head of Cunard Line LLOYD GEORGE'S CHOICE Will Co-ordinate and Direct Work of British Factories Taken Over by Government

London, March 23.—It was said in Liverpool last night that Lloyd-George had made final choice of the strong, pushful man he has been looking for.

Special Committee Taking Up Matter Today—One of the Plans Ottawa, March 23.—Votes for soldiers will be considered this afternoon by the special committee of the commons, dealing with the subject.

Uniform Commercial Laws The secretary of the Halifax Board of Trade writes that that board is fully in sympathy with the resolution adopted by the St. John board with respect to uniformity of commercial legislation.

It Is Paid Back

Refund of Money Paid in Excess To Drug Clerk

Investigation by The Opposition Has Result of Saving The Sum of \$6,300—The Proposed Increase in Senate Membership

Ottawa, March 23.—Publicly given the drug transaction has brought results. It was announced to the public accounts committee this morning that E. Powell, clerk in the retail drug store of W. F. Garland, Conservative member, had refunded the \$2,000 profits from the drug transaction.

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SECOND CONTINGENT AWAY

BEFORE ST. LAWRENCE ROUTE OPEN, INTIMATES HUGHES

General Says That This is Probable—Twenty-five Hundred Applications For Places as Nurses—A Tribute to Canadian Women

Ottawa, March 23.—In parliament yesterday, Mr. MacMillan of Glenora enquired as to the government's intentions with regard to the mobilization of troops now enrolled for active service.

General Hughes said that complaints had been calling for mobilization and the localities for detail.

Mr. Macmillan asked if they would be mobilized at Valcartier camp.

General Hughes declared that the women of the country had proved the best recruiting agents during the present war.

German Warships Fire on Russian Villages on Shore of The Baltic Fleet of Seven Battleships and 28 Torpedo Boats—Russians Cut Up Two German Battalions and Put Third To Flight

London, March 23.—Reuter's Petrograd correspondent says the following semi-official statement has been issued in the Russian capital:

On the night of the 22nd a German squadron of seven battleships and twenty eight torpedo boats cruised along the Polangen coast (Russia on the Baltic), firing on the coast villages.

The enormous booty taken at Przemysl includes 800 wagons, four locomotives and 5,000 tons of coal.

AN IMPORTANT ACT AFFECTING COMPANIES BERNHARDI'S FALSE STATEMENTS REFUTED

P. E. Island Legislation to Protect Investors and Outside Creditors—The Lewis Brothers Captured

Charlottetown, P. E. I., March 23.—Important legislation is now before the provincial legislature in the form of a new companies act modeled on the English statute of 1908 and on the same lines as the British Columbia act.

The object of the bill is to guard thoroughly the interests of the investing public and creditors residing outside the province.

French War Ministry Issues Statement That Germany Alone is to Blame For Belgian Neutrality Violation

Paris, March 23.—The French ministry of war last night issued a statement to refute assertions made in American newspapers by a German military authority, General Frederick von Bernhardi, to the effect that the French plan of concentration showed that the French and British government had made careful preparations to effect the neutrality of Belgium.

THE QUESTION OF THE BRITISH ARMY TAKING THE FIELD WAS NOT CONSIDERED, THE WAR MINISTRY ASSERTS, UNTIL AFTER THE VIOLATION OF BELGIUM ON AUGUST 6. ITS CONCENTRATION WAS EFFECTED BEHIND MAUBERGE ON AUGUST 16 TO 24.

SOME REGARDS THE REPORTS FROM AUSTRIA AS UNFAVORABLE London, March 23.—The Times' Rome correspondent telegraphs:

The points of chief interest here shift with bewildering rapidity. Last week the negotiations with Austria, the Greek crisis and the operations in the Dardanelles disputed first place on the stage.

WANTED IN BOSTON ON BIGAMY CHARGE Moncton, N. B., March 23.—The Moncton police have been notified to be on the lookout for Ronald McDonald who is wanted on a charge of bigamy in Boston; also on charge of assault at Wentworth. He is a native of Nova Scotia and for a short time lived in Moncton.

BURIED TODAY The funeral of Mrs. Sarah A. Worden took place this afternoon from her late residence, Dorchester street, to the Union station. The body was taken to Cambridge, Queens county, for interment.

Postmaster Dies Suddenly Toronto, March 23.—Postmaster D. J. McCoib of New Liskeard, died suddenly on a Grand Trunk train here this morning.

POLICE COURT Frank O'Neill and Joseph Stevens, arrested yesterday on suspicion of stealing fourteen boxes of cigars from the Gen Dining Room, King Square, the property of Benjamin Bishop, were remanded.