

HARD FIGHTING IN WEST WITH FRENCH NIBBLING WAY FORWARD; ENEMY ENCIRCLING LEMBERG

GIVE ENGLAND THE TRUTH ABOUT GREAT WAR AND SHE WILL SHIRK NO SACRIFICE

The Food Supplies of the Motherland—Meat and Fish Higher in Price and Stocks Reduced Through Great Demands of Men in the Field—That Government Must Soon Grapple With Problem is Mr. McKay's Opinion—Mistaken Policy to Circulate Unduly Favorable War Reports.

(Staff Correspondence of The Standard.)

London, May 25.—While on the surface the life of England appears to go on as usual, except for the martial note introduced by the presence of soldiers everywhere, there are not wanting signs that affairs are drifting away from the normal. Of late, the effects of the world war have begun to appear. "Business as usual," has been the slogan, and business men have evidently made a valiant effort to live up to that motto. Since the war broke out there has probably been less unemployment than in times of peace. The army and navy have absorbed a great host of men; the immense and multifarious government enterprises, incidental to the war, have demanded the services of a vast army of workers. Then the efforts of business men to keep the wheels of industry and commerce turning have not gone for naught. But with the world at war, the Empire engaged in a titanic struggle, it was no doubt inevitable that business should be affected sooner or later.

Business Slowing Up.

Up till recently affairs, apparently, had gone so smoothly that Great Britain hardly realized she was at war; certainly did not have a full appreciation of what this colossal conflict must sooner or later mean to her. But now the effects are making themselves felt. Business men show a brave countenance, but they feel that abnormal times are ahead of them. Some industries, woolen manufacturing for instance, are slowing down, because they cannot get ships to bring raw material into the country. In the last few weeks prices of meat and fish have taken bigger jumps than at any time since the war began, and prices of various other commodities have shown a movement in sympathy.

After the Cabinet crisis the Board of Trade issued an official notice, advising the civilian population to limit their consumption of meat, "with a view to economizing the national supplies and avoiding an excessive increase of price." The Advisory Committee of the National Federation of Meat Traders' Associations attribute the increase in prices to the increased requirements of the British and French armies, and the relative shortage of vessels equipped for the conveyance of meat from overseas.

Meat Supplies and Prices.

The government is taking a large proportion of the imported meat for naval and military purposes, and has requisitioned refrigerator space on vessels trading with Australia and New Zealand. Each man in the army receives half a pound of meat a day—more than many of them got in civil life. It is said that compared with a year ago supplies have decreased as follows: Beef, 28 3/4 per cent.; Mutton, 19 per cent.; Fresh pork, 57 1/2 per cent.

On the other hand prices have increased: Beef, 44 per cent.; Mutton, 28 per cent.

Owing to the commandeering of many trawlers for mine sweeping and patrol duty, and the closing of certain fishing grounds, the supply of fish is inadequate. The shrinkage of the fish supplies for the past nine months is estimated at 8,500,000 cwts., as compared with the corresponding period last year.

That the situation in regard to the food supply is becoming serious is generally admitted. Wholesale meat dealers confess inability to cope with the situation, and some have told the press they would be glad if the government commandeered the whole business. And the government is being asked by the fish mongers of London to take measures to increase the supply of fish.

Must Solve Food Problem.

That the reconstructed government must do something about the problem of feeding the civil population, and do it quickly, is the burden of many letters to the press, even of a letter from Hall Caine. And responsible journalists are contrasting the apathy and inaction of the government with the vigorous policy of Germany.

Some months ago nearly everybody in England as well as in Canada thought Germany would soon be starved into submission. But it is now known that when Germany nationalized her foodstuffs, she did it as a characteristic German precaution, not as a desperate remedy. Germany's wall that England was starving her to death was intended to enlist the sympathy of neutrals. Germany is actually exporting some foodstuffs to Holland, and German prices of meat are lower than in Holland—lower it is said by some than in England. And the German government has seen to it that practically all the available agricultural land is being utilized to the best advantage. Even prisoners of war have been put to work raising food for German soldiers and civilians, and after the next harvest Germany will be able to laugh at threats of starvation.

A Long War Expected.

England is only beginning to wake up to the fact that the war is just commencing, that it will tax her energies and resources to carry it to a successful conclusion. A good many people in Canada think or hope that the war will be over this fall. But I think the view which has been maintained all along by men like Col. H. H. McLean is likely to prove more correct; this is evidently going to be a long, cruel war. The Russian steam roller would not develop momentum enough to smash its way to Berlin in many years. France has her hands full. Only England can break the power of Germany and her allies within a reasonable time. And in that great task the food problem of her people is going to play an important part.

How Canada Can Help.

It is here that Canada can help, and greatly help. When the Dominion and provincial governments were advising Canadian farmers this spring to put in large crops as a contribution to imperial defence, I doubt if their advice was taken as seriously as is ought to have been. Many farmers did not respond, because they thought the war would be over by harvest time. Many lumber operators in New Brunswick made

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RELAX TRADE UNION RULES IN WAR TIME ONLY

Labor Member Says British Government Must Give Such an Assurance.

WORKERS READY TO DO PART IF ASKED.

Some Opposition Over Bill Creating War Munitions Portfolio—Lloyd George's Salary Not to Exceed \$25,000.

London, June 7.—Despite opposition by Labor members and by Sir Henry Dalziel, a Radical Liberal, the House of Commons today gave a second reading to the Ministry of Munitions bill, and then sent the bill to a committee of the whole. The committee authorized the salary for the Minister of Munitions, who will be David Lloyd George. The salary is not to exceed \$25,000.

The opposition to the measure was on the ground that it was, in effect, a move for the restriction of British labor. The bill will be discussed further tomorrow by the House when Premier Asquith has promised a detailed announcement concerning the government's attitude in recruiting and the munitions question.

J. H. Thomas, a Labor member, who was the last person to speak on the bill at today's session, said that if the munitions measure was passed it was incumbent upon the government to give assurances that any relaxation in trade union rules should be only for the duration of the war. "The government," said Mr. Thomas "will not get what it wants by putting a pistol at labor's head, let the government say what it wants, and the labor leaders and the workers will quickly rectify any mistakes that have been made."

Alluding to the intervention of Italy, Mr. Asquith said: "During half a century there never has been a shadow of discord between the two nations. We regard her as one of the custodians of the free institutions of Europe. We warmly grasp the hand of Italy and welcome her gallant sailors and soldiers as fellow comrades in the struggle on which the liberty of the world depends."

Frederick G. Kellaway, Liberal member for Bedford, asked whether the government has the power of stopping the mischievous campaign of a group of newspapers, which endeavored to prevent men from joining the army by refusing to publish Lord Kitchener's appeal for more men and violently attacking its conditions, and whether the government was aware that these attacks came from the same sources as did the recent attacks on Lord Kitchener.

Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary under secretary for war, replied: "The action of these journals has stimulated response to Lord Kitchener's appeal. It is believed the men required will be rapidly available."

Mr. Tennant's answer was greeted with cheers.

Mr. Kellaway asked assurance from the coalition government that "this malignant press will not be able to continue its attacks on the leaders of the nation."

Second Reading of Bill to Create Ministry of Munitions

Mr. Tennant, however, said he thought this action was not necessary. Home Secretary Simon moved the second reading of the bill establishing a Ministry of Munitions. He explained that the new department would concern itself with the supply of munitions, but that the fighting departments would determine the nature, extent, and urgency of their needs. The Home Secretary said the army wanted as many shells as organized industry was capable of producing and as quickly as possible.

Lord Robert Cecil, Unionist member of parliament for the North Division of Hertfordshire, and recently appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, made his first appearance in the House of Commons as spokesman for the Foreign Office today.

Replying to a question put by Sir

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THE TEUTONIC ARMIES CONTINUE TO BATTER THEIR WAY EASTWARD

LACK OF MEANS HOLDING BACK MISSION WORK

Standard of Giving Last Year Only \$2.25 Per Communicant—Presbyterian Assembly Continued Church Union Discussion.

Kingston, Ont., June 7.—Church union was the main feature at this morning's proceedings of the Presbyterian General Assembly, but the continuation of the debate during the afternoon session was cut off by the non-appearance of Rev. Dr. McLeod, spokesman for the minority, who moved the adoption of the minority report, submitted by Rev. Dr. Sedgwick.

"Caught napping," was the jocular comment of the Moderator. It transpired, however, that Dr. McLeod had mistaken the hour for the resumption of the debate. The debate was consequently adjourned till tomorrow.

There was a slight breeze over the presentation of the financial report for the eastern section, when Mr. J. K. MacDonald, Toronto, criticized the methods of bookkeeping, and Dr. A. S. Grant retorted that the Trustee Board was as capable of minding its own business as was Mr. MacDonald.

Resuming his presentation of the report on union, Rev. Dr. W. J. Clark said that while he was not in the secrets of those who opposed union, he would state that the whole policy was one of obstruction to the work of the committee and they had held secret meetings at which obstructive statements were prepared. "They do not want to preserve the Presbyterian church, they want to pick it," he declared, amid laughter.

The change of a name did not mean that the Presbyterian church would be obliterated. There was no attempt to force union on the church. All they asked was that the voice of the people should be heard. The divisions of Christians was the greatest obstacle to the Kingdom of God. He saw no reason why there should not be a great national Protestant church in Canada.

Church union was vigorously discussed by the Presbyterian Assembly today. The party for the continuance of the Presbyterian church in Canada made a determined effort to have a truce declared until after the war. Principal Forrest of Halifax presenting the financial report for the eastern section, said: "The whole of our funds are in a very healthy condition. We come before you with the full amount necessary for every department of our church in spite of the war."

It was decided that all departments expending or receiving money close their books December 31.

Rev. Dr. W. T. Clark, of Montreal, took up the Union Committee report, left unfinished at the previous session. He asserted that union was not being forced on the church. There is no such thing as attempting to force union on the church. We are asking that the voice of the people may be heard.

"Is it right that a party should be formed in this church to fight for a definite policy?" he asked. He claimed that it was not right. Mr. Clark also took up the truce argument in detail.

Dr. Clark concluded by saying that there was not a missionary in the church who was opposed to union.

Dr. Thomas Sedgwick, Tatamagouche, N. S., presented the minority report. The greetings of the assembly were sent to the Methodist Conference.

Mr. MacDonald explained that last year's recorded receipts only covered a period of nine months.

He had hoped to raise the fund to half a million, but conditions in the west were unfavorable.

An overture from Montreal asking that all retiring ministers be included in the fund, rates be abolished and the fund raised by contributions from congregations was referred to the committee to report on next year, after

London, June 7.—If the Germans have transferred troops from the east to the west, as reported, they have held sufficient men on the eastern front to continue without relaxation the offensive that has carried them and the Austrians almost across Galicia.

The forces which pinched Przemysl into surrender are battering their way eastward, and, according to both the German and Austrian official communications, are at one point in the south-east hardly more than sixty miles from the Russian frontier. The troops which swept through Stry have continued further east, until they are thirty miles beyond that town and equally beyond Lemberg, the position of which appears perilous.

Further north they are eighteen miles to the east of Przemysl. So that, roughly speaking, the encircling movement on Lemberg is duplicating that at Przemysl.

The Germans are also on the offensive in the Baltic provinces. Their official statement records the crossing of the River Windau, to the southeast of Libau.

A Petrograd despatch received in London tonight says: "Telegrams from Riga report the Germans active to the north, northeast and east of Libau. The military authorities expect heavy fighting at Nostzisk, where the Russians will make a determined stand."

Hard fighting and heavy losses on both sides, notably to the north of Arras, where the French seem determined to nibble their way forward, continue in the west, but the contests are hardly more than trench warfare, contrasted with the fighting in Galicia.

The repeated Zeppelin raids on England have aroused British airmen to extraordinary vigorous action a raid on a Zeppelin shed near Brussels and the bringing down of a Zeppelin with its crew near Ghent being carried out at about the same time. The British official account does not state whether the hangar attacked held a Zeppelin, but a message reaching London asserts that it did.

Italy since she has thrown her troops in the field and unleashed her navy of the side of the Allies, has been taken into the financial circle of the nations warring against Germany. At a recent meeting of the British Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Italian Minister of the Treasury, an agreement was reached to pool resources, just as Great Britain, France and Russia had previously agreed.

Say Fall of Lemberg is Imminent.

London, June 7.—Telegrams from Vienna say that Lemberg, the capital of the Austrian crownlands of Galicia, now in the hands of the Russians, may be taken at any time by the Austro-German forces, according to a despatch from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

One message from the Austrian capital says that the Austrians are twenty-three miles from there and other advices estimate the distance at only ten miles.

GIFT OF GOLD FOR CAPT. REV. BRUCE TAYLOR

Montreal, June 7.—Capt. the Rev. R. Bruce Taylor, D. D., who is going with the 42nd Highlanders to the war, was given a service belt, containing \$200 in gold, a leather writing case and set of blankets by the members of St. Paul's Presbyterian church tonight, besides an address expressing the appreciation of the members of his congregation. He has been granted six months leave of absence.

A caustic comment by Mr. MacDonald that it was a pity the Presbytery of Montreal did not follow up its suggestion by increasing its subscription to the fund, instead of coming over \$100 behind last year.

The report of the committee on the laymen's movement, recommending closer affiliation for field work with the Board of Finance was referred to a special committee, as were several other minor recommendations.

Addresses on the budget occupied the time of the assembly at the evening session. Rev. Dr. Wallace, Toronto, paid a tribute to the laymen's movement. There were still, however, undeveloped resources. God was using the war to shake His people out of self-indulgence.

Rev. Robert Laird, secretary of the Finance Board, said there were signs of a new awakening. At the same time the work of home and foreign missions was halted for the lack of means to carry it on. The standard of giving for 1914 was only \$2.55 per communicant.

BREAD SOON AS CHEAP AS BEFORE WAR

Government Control of India's Wheat Crop and Bright Prospects of Good Supply Forces Prices Down at Rate of Almost \$1 a Day.

London, June 7.—Government control of the Indian wheat supply, thus preventing speculation, combined with the prospects of good harvests in Canada and the Argentine and the forcing of the Dardanelles, thus liberating the Russian supply, is causing wheat prices to fall at the rate of about a dollar daily. The prospect is that bread will soon be as cheap as before the war.

The London county council and some metropolitan boroughs contemplate purchasing road-making machines, with the intention of retalling it at low rates next winter, thus avoiding the heavy prices paid by the poor last winter.

CASUALTY LISTS ISSUED YESTERDAY

Ottawa, June 8.—The midnight list of casualties contains the names of Sergt. David Lund, Sackville, N. B., missing; Lance Corporal G. F. Y. Miersen, Blenheim, Northumberland county, N. B., wounded; Pte. Alex. McFarlane, Port Hartings, N. S., missing; Pte. Geo. W. Henderson, South Maitland, N. S., reported missing now rejoined unit.

(For earlier casualty lists, see page 3).

OBJECT TO KEEPING Nfld. WORKMEN FROM THE SYDNEY MINES

St. John's, Nfld., June 7.—The Evening Telegram, a newspaper, the organ of the Liberal, or opposition party in this colony in a lengthy editorial tonight strongly protests against the Canadian immigration orders excluding Newfoundland workmen from Cape Breton mines, asserting that this is an unjust step and calculated to injure better relations between Canada and Newfoundland, and calls upon the colonial government to take firm steps to urge Ottawa to rescind the orders.

CENSURE CONFERENCE FOR REFUSING TO GRANT THE VOTE TO WOMEN

St. Marys, Ont., June 7.—By a vote of 85 to 67 London Methodist Conference today censured the General Conference for refusing, at its last session, to grant women members of the conference equal representation with men in the courts of the church. It was also decided to ask the legislature to extend the franchise to women.