

Martial Law Proclaimed in Dublin County Asquith Gives Recruiting Figures to Commons Fuse Investigation Began To-day in Ottawa

ASQUITH DELIVERS ULTIMATUM TO COMMONS: 200,000 TROOPS RAISED, OR ELSE CONSCRIPTION

In Secret Session Premier Tells Members 200,000 are to be Forthcoming Within the Next Four Weeks, Then 15,000 Weekly Until 200,000 Men Enlist.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, April 26.—Premier Asquith at the secret session of parliament yesterday presented on behalf of the government proposals for shadowing general military conscription unless success attended immediate efforts to obtain men required by voluntary enlistment from amongst unattached married men. The government's proposals were publicly announced to-day in a long statement to the press.

The government, Mr. Asquith said, will "forthwith ask parliament for compulsory power" unless at the end of four weeks ending May 27, 50,000 men have been secured by voluntary enlistment. The same course is proposed if any one week after May 27, 15,000 men have not been secured by direct enlistment. These arrangements are to hold good until 200,000 unattached men have been obtained.

Owing to the length of time required to sift individual cases under the present system, the press statement said, recruiting to date has fallen short of requirements which were necessary to fulfill our proper military effort.

The statement in full follows:—
"The premier in moving the adjournment of the House gave the particulars of the expansion of the army from the first days of the war up to the present time and of the total military effort of the empire, including contributions from the self-governing dominions and India. He reviewed inquiries conducted by government order, to examine all conscriptions relevant to the recruiting problem, including demands made upon our supply of labor in providing for the needs of the navy, mercantile marine ports, munitions and other essential national services.

FINANCE AND RECRUITING

"The bearing of finance on the question of recruiting and in particular on the financial assistance rendered to the allies, was then explained. From these inquiries were deducted the number of men that could safely be spared from industry for military purposes during the present year and the anticipated effect of calling up these numbers at the rate proposed was explained.

NOT ENOUGH MEN.

"Results of recruiting, more particularly since August last, when registration was carried out, were reviewed. It was shown that the results obtained to date had fallen short of requirements which were necessary to fulfill our proper military effort. This was due not to an overestimate of the number of men available, but to the length of time which must be occupied in sifting individual cases without impairing other essential national services or causing grave cases of hardship.

TO MEET THE SITUATION

"To meet the situation, the government determined upon three relative minor proposals:—
"First, prolongation until the end of the war of the service of time-expired men whose period of service under the present law can be extended for one year only.
"Second, to empower the military authorities to transfer men enlisted for territorial battalions to any unit where they are needed.
"Third, to render the exempted man liable to military service immediately on the expiration of his certificate of exemption.

"With a view to ultimate addition to forces available, he will further purpose to bring under the terms of the military service act all youths under eighteen on August 15, last, as they reach that age.
"Third, to render the exempted man liable to military service immediately on the expiration of his certificate of exemption.

WILL ASK FOR CONSCRIPTION

"Further, the premier stated, recognizing that the necessary numbers required for the discharge of our military obligations will not be available for service at the time required under present arrangements, agrees that immediate effort shall be made

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SITUATION IN IRELAND IS SATISFACTORY

Lord Lieutenant Wires London That Revolt is Being Mastered.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, April 26.—At the opening of the House of Commons to-day Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, said it was difficult to say whether any routes to Ireland were open or closed. He added that he was going there if he could make arrangements.

The following telegram was received in London to-day from Baron Wimborne, Lord Lieutenant for Ireland, dated Dublin:—
"The situation is satisfactory. Stephen's Green has been occupied. Eleven insurgents have been killed. The provincial news reassuring."

Col. R. H. I. Goddard, Rhode Island manufacturer, died suddenly.

COURIER'S DAILY CARTOON



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FORGETTING THEIR WOUNDS IN THE CHASE



There is nothing our wounded enjoy more than a bit of sport. A number of them at Harlow, Essex, joyfully accepted an invitation to have a day out with the Blake Hall Beagles, which are now being hunted by Miss C. Waters on behalf of Capt. Gladstone, who is at the front. Photo shows a sprint across a ploughed field.—(Exclusive Courier Pictorial Service, in conjunction with the London Daily Mirror.)

RAIDING ZEPPELINS KEPT UP AT GREAT HEIGHT BECAUSE OF FIRE FROM AIR CRAFT GUNS

Night Was Dark But Invaders Flew After Short Time.

London, April 26.—The Zeppelins which made a raid over the east coast last night, remained at great height, probably because they were subjected to violent fire from anti-aircraft guns. The raiders were favored by the darkness of the moonless night and the lightness of the wind, but were forced to flee after a short time.

A correspondent in a town of Essex county says a Zeppelin was picked up by a searchlight at the outskirts of the county, as it was sailing in a southerly direction. The ship began to burst around it from many directions. The Zeppelin climbed very high and hovered about for ten minutes. Then it sailed eastward. No bombs were dropped after the searchlights found it.

The number of casualties and extent of the damages caused by the raid have not yet been ascertained.

25 CASUALTIES AS RESULT OF GERMAN RAID

Bombardment of Lowestoft Lasted For Twenty Minutes. BRITISH CHASED THEM AWAY

Raid Was Probably Part of a Filibustering Expedition.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, April 26.—Twenty-five casualties in dead and wounded resulted from the bombardment of Lowestoft by German warships and the consequent running fight with the British light cruiser squadron and destroyers, so far as can be learned. All the British ships have returned safely. Two of the light cruisers bear signs that they had been hit by shells, but not in vital places. A few among the crews of the British warships were wounded, but not seriously.

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Signs of the Times

Geneva, via Paris, April 26.—An exodus of Americans from Germany has begun. A number of them already have arrived at Basel. They are convinced that a rupture between Germany and the United States is inevitable.

BREAD FOR HAMILTON

Mr. George S. Almas Refuses Terms Offered by Mayor of That City.

The Hamilton correspondence of the Toronto Globe contains the following:—
"The City Council had a chance to-night to deal a hard blow at the bread ring, but failed to take advantage of it. Mr. Almas of Hamilton offered to send in two thousand loaves daily at five and a quarter cents delivered here, and to do this for six months. Aldermen Halford and Halcrow moved that the offer be accepted, but Controller Morris and Aid. Plunkett moved in amendment that the matter be referred to a committee. While the matter was being discussed a number of members left the Council chamber, and when the vote was to be taken it was found that there was not a quorum."

When seen by a Courier man, Mr. Almas stated that he had been asked to consider such a price, but decided that he could not do so. In this regard, he has sent the following letter:—
"Mayor Walters, Hamilton:—
"Mr. Mayor,
"Your Worship—I find upon further consideration of costs that it will be impossible for me to enter into a contract with the City of Hamilton to supply any quantity of bread at the price you offered, the price being so much less than my Brantford price. Furthermore, I do not and will not ship bread to Hamilton on your conditions.

Yours truly,
GEO. S. ALMAS."

NO CASUALTIES.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, April 26, 4.22 p.m.—One hundred bombs were dropped by the zeppelin dirigible balloons in their raid over England Tuesday night. This announcement was made by the official press bureau. There were no casualties.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, April 26, 12.30 p.m.—A French aeroplane and a Zeppelin fought a duel at an altitude of 4,000 metres off Zebrugge to-day. The aeroplane fired nine incendiary shells at the Zeppelin, which appears to have been damaged.

The engagement, occurring more than two miles from the surface of the earth was fought at 3 o'clock this morning.

HEADQUARTERS OF IRISH REBELS ARE CAPTURED

Martial Law Proclaimed in City and County of Dublin.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, April 26, 3.20 p.m.—Liberty Hall, headquarters of the Dublin rebels, and Stephen's Green, which was captured by them, have been occupied by the military, Premier Asquith announced to-day in the House of Commons.

Martial law has been proclaimed in the city and county of Dublin, it was announced in the House of Commons. Troops have arrived at Dublin from Belfast and England.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Rome, via Paris, April 26.—The Austrians are preparing a great offensive against the Italian line under the supervision of Archduke Charles Francis, who is now inspecting the troops on the Isonzo and in the Trentino, according to The Giornale d'Italia. All civil traffic has been suspended on the railroads from Graz to Agram and from Laibach to Tarvis.

INVESTIGATION INTO CHARGES OVER FUSE CONTRACTS STARTED THIS MORNING IN OTTAWA

Sir Sam Hughes Present and Also Col. Allison—Col. Carnegie Took Stand and Gave Evidence—Correspondence Produced Between Old Country and Militia Department.

PRICES FOR FIRST SHELLS

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Ottawa, April 26.—Investigation into the charges laid in the House of Commons by G. W. Kytte, member of the House of Commons for Richmond county, N.S., that huge contracts were let to and large profits were made by two "mushroom" concerns in the United States with the approval of Major-General Sam Hughes, minister of militia, was begun this morning by the royal commission, consisting of Sir William Meredith, Toronto, and Mr. Justice Duff of the federal supreme court.

Counsel acting in the case are: I. F. Hellmuth, K.C., Toronto, representing the Dominion Government; E. F. Johnston, K.C., Toronto; F. H. Markey and S. W. Markey and S. W. Jacobs, Montreal, with F. B. Carvell, M.P., in an advisory capacity, for the Liberal party; J. S. Ewart, K.C., Toronto, Wallace Nesbitt, K.C., Montreal, and Eugene Lafleur, K.C., Montreal, for General Hughes; George F. Henderson, C. C. Ottawa, for Col. J. Wesley Allison, friend of the minister of militia, alleged to have participated in the profits from the fuse contracts; N. K. Laflamme, K.C., Montreal, for the shell committee, which let the contracts; A. W. Atwater, K.C., Montreal, for the International Arms and Fuse Company, which with the American ammunition company secured the contracts.

ALLISON AND HUGHES HERE.

Col. Allison was an early arrival at the railway commissioners room in Central station, where the inquiry was held. General Hughes came straight from a review of a battalion and took a seat among his counsel. Mr. Johnston explained at the outset that at the first meeting of the commission last week he had stated he was not quite aware as to his status, and whether he was to take his instructions from the government or from the Liberal party. He now desired to state that the Solicitor-General had written informing him that no restraint would be put upon him. If he desired to combine his actions with an attack on the shell committee or any member of the government he was at liberty to do so, so the Solicitor-General wished.

Mr. Hellmuth said he understood that Mr. Johnston was to act as prosecutor in the hearing, while his own duties were clearly defined as requiring him to assist the commission. He would not undertake to defend any particular person.

Mr. Nesbitt said it was necessary to know exactly what position Mr. Johnston took.

He could not be lord high chancellor on one hand and lord high executioner on the other. They did not want an enemy disguised as an impartial assistant to the commission.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, April 26, 12.30 p.m.—A French aeroplane and a Zeppelin fought a duel at an altitude of 4,000 metres off Zebrugge to-day. The aeroplane fired nine incendiary shells at the Zeppelin, which appears to have been damaged.

This was important because of the question of Mr. Johnston's laudation in examination of witnesses.

Mr. Johnston said he would abide by the instructions given him by the solicitor-general.

This seemed to satisfy everybody.

MR. FLAVELLE CALLED.

J. W. Flavelle, chairman of the munitions committee, was called in regard to the production of documents.

Mr. Nesbitt objected to the production of documents by Mr. Flavelle, chairman of the present munitions commission in relation to the shell committee.

Mr. Hellmuth promised to deal with the question of documents required.

ENGAGED BY SHELL COMMITTEE.

Col. David Carnegie, M.P.C.E., R.S.E., said he was engaged as a shell expert by the shell committee for three months at a salary of \$3,000. He was not engaged or paid by the militia department. He explained his previous experience as a munition expert with the imperial government at Woolwich Arsenal. He was in Canada at the outbreak of the war on private business at Welland. His brother was a member of the shell committee and suggested to him that he should take up work for that body.

General Hughes, which resulted in one of the most abrupt interviews he had ever experienced. The general frightened him into a deliverer thing by his glance at him. He was perfunctorily instructed to see General Bertram, and he was much disgusted at his treatment.

Col. Carnegie then paid a glowing tribute to General Bertram and Thomas Cantley, who persuaded him to join the shell committee staff.

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