

The Herald

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The Soldiers Vote

Melisaac and Nicholson Elected.

The counting of the military and naval vote polled in North America was completed at Ottawa on Friday last, and resulted in changes in at least two constituencies where Laurier candidates were elected according to the civilian vote polled on December 17th.

On the 24th, the return of the military votes polled in France reached Ottawa, with the result that four more seats in Nova Scotia changed from the opposition to the Government Column. These are Hans Pictou, South Cape Breton, where there are two members. These along with Cumberland make a total of five changes in Nova Scotia.

So far as Prince Edward Island is concerned, the combined North-American and French Military vote has greatly reduced the adverse majorities against the Government candidates. In Queen's County Mr. Nicholson is now but 214 votes behind Warburton, and Mr. Martin's adverse majority is reduced to 372 as against Sinclair.

In King's County, the following was the standing of the respective candidates at the close of the recount proceedings last week: Hughes 2776; Melisaac 2529, majority for Hughes 247. The North American military and naval vote numbered 70. Of this vote: Hughes received 14 and Melisaac 56. That reduced Hughes majority to 205. The European continental military vote was 189, of which Hughes received 33 and Melisaac 156. This reduced Hughes majority to 82. The military vote in England received today was 162. Of these Hughes received 14 and Melisaac 148. This elects Melisaac by a majority of 52.

Nicholson is elected by a majority of 57 over Sinclair and Martin leads Warburton by 90 votes; but Sinclair leads Martin by 4 votes. Melisaac and Nicholson are elected.

An Allied Peace This Year.

That Germany is staking all on Hindenburg's much advertised Western offensive and that, if beaten, she has no other "card in her sleeve" is the opinion of war reviewers who have carefully studied the situation both as regards the Western front, the

scene of what may well be the last big battle, and as it is affected by the attitude of the German people themselves.

W. Philip Simms of the United Press is the latest correspondent to give expression to his conviction that a peace of the Allies dictation is more than a possibility of the year 1918. In his opinion it is only necessary to "hold on on the West front and the war is done." And he believes the Allies can and will "hold on."

In spite of the stories of the huge army Germany has gathered for this one big effort Mr. Simms does not believe that the Teutons have "the proverbial chance in a thousand." "French punch and British bulldogism" will beat them when they start, and once the Hindenburg attack fails the backbone of German effort will be so badly broken that the further continuance of the war will be very brief.

It is remarkable that in the past few weeks many other correspondents with excellent facilities for gleanings the facts of the situation have taken the same view as Mr. Simms. They feel that the coming battle will represent the acme of Germany's effort, and if it fails, she will be forced by her war-weary people to accept what peace terms the Allies are willing to give. They are equally certain that the effort will fail and that the duration of the war is a thing to be measured at most in terms of months.

The Capture of Jericho

Another step toward the fulfillment of the British plan to free the Holy Land from the domination of the Turk has been gained by the capture of Jericho, which success went to the credit of the Australian troops on Thursday. The cable announcing the capture says that the incoming troops encountered little opposition and after completing the occupation of the village, are now in positions on the Jordan ready to continue the pursuit of the beaten Turks.

British forces now dominate the Jordan valley and control the highways leading from Jericho. The next step will probably be to cut the railway between Damascus and Mecca, which can be reached by a journey of twenty-five miles from the present location of the British. The capture of this railway would cut the Turkish line of communication with Arabia and would prove of assistance to the Arab tribesmen who are co-operating with the British against the Turks.

The gain at Jericho is a minor success and can have no effect on the campaign in any of the other areas. As a fighting force the Turks are already demoralized and Germany has shown a disposition to eliminate them from her considerations. It is not by captures of Jericho that this war will be won, and in fact, one of the members of the British House of Commons criticising the war policy of his government, took the ground that the cause of the Entente would be better advanced if minor operations, such as the campaign in Palestine, were abandoned and all attention centred on the Western front, where, he claimed, the final issue must and will be decided.

The criticism of the British member was not well grounded. One of the difficulties Britain has had to contend against in this war is that she has been forced to operate in many different zones. In Palestine, in Persia, in Egypt, in Africa and in the Islands of the Sea, she has had forces of considerable size. And they have done splendid work with the result that the Teutonic allies have already been soundly beaten in

every area save those where the major operations are going forward.

To free the Holy Land from the unspeakable Turk was an enterprise upon which Britain could not fail to engage, and one which, once undertaken, must be continued until the effort is crowned with complete victory. —St. John Standard

Furlough For The First

The announcement that arrangements have been made whereby the survivors of the gallant First Canadian Contingent shall be given a three months' furlough at home comes as good news and the Government of Canada as well as the overseas military administration are both to be heartily congratulated upon taking the necessary steps to bring this about.

While all the Canadian contingents have done splendid work, it should be remembered that to the men of the "First" particular credit belongs. They fought when conditions on the Western front were far different from what they are today, when the available guns and munitions were but scanty compared with the present splendid supply, when trenches were, but ditches and at the best the men had but small comfort. They are the men who by their splendid work at Ypres, stopped the German thrust at Calais, who at Langemark, Festubert and other bloody fields did so much to write the name of Canada high on the page of world heroism.

Today there are but 3,000 of these originals still on active service. They have withstood more than once, yet when their wounds healed and they were once more able to "carry on," they went back to the battle lines there to do as they had done before. Surely they deserve a holiday, and surely when they come home the Canadian people should give them a welcome in some degree commensurate to their service.

Under the agreement made by the Government the married men of that 3,000 will be the first to enjoy home leave. It is right and fitting that this should be so, for there are homes in Canada where children are growing up with but a very blurred and imperfect recollection of "daddy," and where patient wives have watched for three years for the return of the loved one who went to war in the summer of 1914. By all means let us have the boys of the First Contingent home again, and when they come, let us show them in no uncertain manner that we are proud of them and that we appreciate the sacrifices they have made for Canada and the Empire.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his running mate spent over \$8,000 in their futile bid for election in Ottawa City. The final return will probably show a majority of half as many thousand votes against them.

Progress of the War

London, Feb. 19.—Russia is now forced to sign peace upon the conditions proposed by Germany says an official Russian statement received here today. The official statement was signed by Premier Lenine and Leon Trozky, the foreign minister. It protests against the German resumption of the war and says the council of people's commissaries is now forced to declare its readiness to sign a peace as dictated by the delegations of the quadruple alliance at Brest-Litovsk. It promises to give a detailed reply without delay to the German peace conditions. The statement was transmitted through the wireless telegraph stations of the Russian government to the government of the German empire at Berlin. The text reads: "The council of people's commissaries protests against the fact that the German government has directed its troops against the Russian republic, which has declared the war was at an end and

which is demobilizing its army on all fronts.

Behind the Entente lines in France and Belgium the military leaders, with the armistice ready, are expecting the Germans to launch their much talked of offensive, but their still 'is no outward sign of its near approach. Artillery duels and raiding operations and intensive aerial activity continue to feature the fighting all along the front. Three successful raids against the German have been carried out by the British in Flanders and near Lens and Arras in Northern France. In Flanders the raid, which was carried south of the Houtholst Wood, resulted in the British penetrating German positions on a wide front, the infliction of numerous casualties and the taking of prisoners. Sixteen German aeroplanes were accounted for Sunday in aerial fighting by British army airmen and in addition German towns and military positions behind the battle front were heavily bombed.

The Russian Bolshevik government has capitulated and announced its readiness, although protesting to sign a peace compact under the hard terms imposed by Germany. Notwithstanding this fact, however, teutonic troops are advancing eastward into Russia over a front of four hundred miles, from Riga in the north to Lutsk, a scant fifty miles from the east Galician border, on the south. Apparently thus far the operation has met with no opposition. The northern reaches of the Divna River have been crossed by the enemy; the important railroad town of Dvinsk, whence roads run northward to Petrograd and eastward to Smolensk, has been captured and Lutsk, one of the famous fortresses, forming the Volhynian triangle and forming the gateway leading eastward to Kiev, has been entered without the Russians attempting to stay the foe. The official announcement of the capitulation was signed by Nikolai Lenine and Leon Trozky on behalf of the peoples commissaries of Russia.

London, Feb. 20.—The British army in Palestine made an attack yesterday east of Jerusalem, advancing two miles on a front of fifteen miles, it is announced officially. The communication follows: "Yesterday morning we advanced to the attack on a frontage of from fifteen miles east of Jerusalem. By evening all objectives had been secured, to an average depth of two miles.

London, Feb. 20.—The report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters tonight says: "A few prisoners were brought in by our patrols on the southern portion of the front. A raid was attempted by the enemy early this morning east of Amertines, but was repulsed. The hostile artillery has shown some activity during the day in the neighborhood of St. Quentin and southwest of La Bassée."

Like a tidal wave, the German invasion of Russia rolls forward. From Lsal, in Estonia, the Russian provinces on the south shore of the Gulf of Finland, on the north of Rovno, one of the famous triangle of fortresses, which stood as a Muscovite bulwark in the early days of the war on the south, the Germans are still advancing. The advance of the Teutons has taken the form of a crescent, with its convex face toward the heart of Russia. Minsk, which was occupied yesterday by German troops, according to an official report from Berlin is at the extreme eastern curve of the wave. The formal message of surrender sent to the German high command in Russia, after Berlin had refused to accept a capitulation by wireless, has not yet been received and it is probable that there will be no halting of the German invasion until Russia's abject acceptance of peace terms is in the hands of the German general staff—possibly at then. From the official reports emanating from Berlin, it would seem that the Russians were not destitute of supplies with which to continue the war. Despatches received on Thursday were to the effect that the booty captured at Rovno is enormous. Among the items enumerated were 1,353 guns, 120 machine

guns, 4,000 to 5,000 motor cars, and trains with about 1,000 carriages, many of which were laden with grain; airplanes and war material of an amount said to be "incalculable."

With the American army in France, Feb. 22.—In a patrol fight, Americans from units under instruction in the famous Chemin des Dames sector (killed one German and captured another. One American was slightly wounded. This is the first time it has been permitted to reveal the fact that new American units have entered the line. The troops have been there for some time, suffering slight casualties, but their presence was kept a secret. It was certain the enemy knew they were there.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 21.—(By the Associated Press)—The artillery duel continues night and day. The enemy is firing an ever greater number of shells, but only insignificant damage has been done to the American lines. American shells on the other hand, appear to be hitting important enemy positions with regularity except when a ground haze obscures observation. Activity in the air has not diminished and numbers of German machines continue to cross the American lines. Today a German machine flew so low that it emptied its machine gun into a group of American soldiers gathered around a camp kitchen.

Petrograd, Feb. 21.—A proclamation ordering resistance to the German advance, calling on all Russians to defend the fatherland and declaring Petrograd in a state of siege, was issued tonight from the Smuin Institute, the Bolshevik headquarters. The proclamation was issued at the order of the people's commissaries and is signed by Premier Lannine and Esigin Krylenko, the Bolshevik commander-in-chief.

London, Feb. 22.—Austrian and German troops are advancing in the south simultaneously with the Germans in the north and Ukrainian troops are reported to have joined them against the Bolsheviks, according to a Petrograd despatch to the Morning Post. The Polish legion of the Russian army have offered an armistice in the prevailing civil war on conditions of free passage in any direction, and are now trying to reach Warsaw. The German advance into Russia is not the march of a conqueror, for nowhere up to the present have they met any serious opposition. The comparatively rapid progress is ascribed to the fact that the Germans found a clear passage. "Special despatches from Petrograd, none of which are dated later than Wednesday, indicate that the invaders are making their own pace in collecting immense stores of weapons, munitions, food and other valuable property, which the disorganized Russian armies abandoned in their hurried flight. The strength of the German advancing army is not believed to be great. A Petrograd despatch to the Morning Post says that there is only one division of cavalry and one division of infantry.

Germany's ultimate objective, of course, can only be speculated upon, but, according to the correspondent there is nothing whatever to prevent them from reaching Petrograd if they wish, for the demoralization of the Russian soldiers is so complete that orders to resist the invasion would be impossible of execution. Moreover the enemy could easily reduce the capital to famine, which already is closing its grip on the people. The Bolshevik capitulation to a German peace and news of the German advance was received in Petrograd in various ways, according to Wednesday's report. The correspondent of the Times says that profound disgust and shame was felt and uttered by serious and intelligent people and was reflected in the non-Bolshevik newspapers. A report to the Morning Post says that the sinner element of the population call for closer relations with the Allies, looking to the unification of Russia and the abandonment of the dreams of amateur statesmen. It is reported in this connection (Continued on page 3.)

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Legislative Assembly

Prince Edward Island Rules Relating to Private Bills

36. All petitions for Private Bills must be presented within fourteen days after the commencement of the session, exclusive of adjournment.

37. No Private Bill shall be brought into the House but upon a petition first presented, truly stating the case at the peril of the suitors for such Bill, and such petition must be signed by the said parties.

38. A committee shall be appointed at the commencement of every session consisting of five members, of whom three shall be a quorum, to be denominated "The Private Bills Committee," to whom shall be referred every Private Bill, and no proceedings after the first reading shall be had upon such Bill until such Committee has reported thereon to the House.

39. As soon as the Committee has reported any Bill, such Bill, together with any amendments that may be suggested by the Committee, shall be printed at the expense of the parties who are suitors for such Bill, and printed copies, thereof delivered to the members before the second reading if deemed necessary by the Committee.

40. No Bill for the particular interests of any person or persons Corporation or Corporations, or body or bodies of people, shall be read a second time until all fees be paid for the same into the hands of the Clerk of the House.

41. No Bill having for its object the vesting in or conferring upon any person or persons, Municipality or Body Corporate the title to any tract of land shall be received or read in the House unless at least four weeks' notice containing a full description of the land in question has been published in the Royal Gazette and one other newspaper in this Province of the intention of such person or persons, Municipality or Body Corporate to apply for such Bill.

H. E. DAWSON, Clerk Legislative Assembly November 28, 1917—1f

Notice to Debtors

All old Accounts, of which payment has already been demanded by newspaper advertisement, will now be collected without further notice.

D. E. MORRIS, M. D. Dundas, Dec. 26, 1917—4i P. S. McLeod K.C.—W. F. Bentley, K.C.

McLEOD & BENTLEY Barristers, Attorneys and Solicitors.

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