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SATURDAY MORNING JUNE 16 1917—SIXTEEN PAGES

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VOL. XXXVII.—No. 13,366

The Toronto World

SMASH HINDENBURG LINE IN BULLE COURT REGION

Successful Raids Carried Out Against German Positions Northwest of Lens and on River Lys -- General Plumer Continues Pressure on Seven Mile Front With Satisfactory Results--Effective Air Raid on Belgian Coast Town

DISLOYALTY CHARGES RESULT IN BITTER DEBATE IN HOUSE

Sevigny, Answering Attack, Declares Laurier and Bourassa Are Reunited and Makes Sweeping Charges of Treason Against Liberal Press and Politicians of Quebec.

Ottawa, June 15.—The house of commons, after a four-day's slumber, woke up this afternoon in the worst possible humor. Hon. Albert Sevigny, the minister of inland revenue, occupied the centre of the stage, and round his banner shined and flared the headings of the Liberal press and Liberal politicians of Quebec, and created a marked sensation when he declared that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Henri Bourassa had been reconciled and reunited in an interview between them in Ottawa on Sunday last.

After the dinner recess the Liberal caucus came back with a formal statement from the leader denying the worst possible charges of treason and disloyalty which were hurled at him during the greater part of the time the house was in hopeless disorder.

The storm broke at an early hour in the afternoon, just after the house was moved into committee of supply, with Richard Blain of the chair, and Hon. Mr. Sevigny in the front row, ready to put through his estimates for the inland department.

Mr. Lapointe of Kamouraska, enquired about the appointment in Mr. Sevigny's department, and claimed Mr. Renaud's newspaper, Le France Partout, had been preaching sedition against the government in the city and district of Quebec.

Sevigny's Odd Remedy. Mr. Sevigny's articles in Le France Partout were so full of sedition, he admitted that Mr. Renaud had been savagely attacking Sir William Price, who is recruiting in Quebec, and he (Mr. Sevigny) thought it would be in the public interest to suppress the paper, which was a one-man affair, by giving its editor a berth in the civil service.

Mr. Macdonald (Piloton) sarcastically enquired why the government did not make Henri Bourassa a deputy minister.

Mr. Knowles (Moore Jaw) said a newspaper at Sault Ste. Marie suspected of sedition had been promptly suppressed, but Le France Partout was not, and the editor of Le France Partout was given a government job.

Mr. Lapointe said that Renaud had bitterly attacked in the France Partout a paper which was the 17th Battalion, raised by Sir William Price, and advised men not to enlist in it. Mr. Sevigny said he had surprised to hear that Renaud and Sir William Price were not good friends.

Division Bell Jingles. "I do not think the minister of inland revenue is responsible for this in any case," he added. "Sir William Price is one of my good friends, and while he was raising his battalion I tried on several occasions to help him all I could in his organization."

By this time the discussion began to ramble far afield, harking back to Mr. Sevigny's speeches in 1910, 1911 and the Dorchester by-election of 1917, and Chairman Blain declared it all out of order.

To this ruling Hon. Frank Oliver, Hon. Charles Maclellan and other Liberals protested vigorously. Mr. Oliver appealed to Mr. Speaker. The eyes and noses were demanded, and the division bell jingled furiously. Ministers and members hurried in, few of them having the least idea of what the question was that they were called upon to vote, but the ruling of the chair was sustained, yeas 38, nays 17.

Sevigny's Defence. As soon as the speaker left the chair and the house went into committee, with Deputy Speaker Rainville presiding, the discussion broke out again with increased bitterness and vigor.

Mr. Sevigny: I made the recommendation for one reason, and for one reason only, and that was, I thought, I thought it would be a good thing if the paper were put out of business.

ANARCHY IS LET LOOSE IN TOWN OF KIRSANOV

Petrograd, June 15.—Via London.—The town of Kirsanov, in the Province of Tambov, in central Russia, has proclaimed itself an autonomous republic. A fight between partisans of opposing parties there followed the proclamation, and eight persons were killed and many wounded. Trunine, the president of the new republic, has been arrested and troops have been sent to Kirsanov.

CONSCRIPTION TO FORE RAILWAY ISSUE LATER

Government Bound to Press Forced Service Measure Thru After, Which Problem of Coal and Car Scarcity Will Be Faced.

Special to The Toronto World. Ottawa, June 15.—It is certain now that the government are going on with the conscription bill on Monday, followed by a big debate. Sir Sam Hughes is here to-day, and may be one of the early speakers. Evidently the government have determined to concentrate on putting through the conscription bill and putting it through with a substantial majority, notwithstanding the opposition to it, mainly confined to the Province of Quebec.

Nothing definite is yet known about the policy of the government in regard to the railway situation, though it is believed that it was very extensively thrashed out at the caucus on Thursday. The speeches there were made mainly by private members; the policy of the government has yet to be disclosed, although from the announcement in The Journal here to-day it would seem that some kind of temporary assistance for the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Northern may later on in the session be introduced in parliament. More or less associated with the government's policy in connection with these two railways is the large order placed recently by the minister of railways for additional cars, with a view of being able to supply coal, not only to Ontario and Quebec, but to the western provinces as well; and that the government have some intention of taking some kind of control over the coal supply on both the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Northern, and to see that

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(Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

REFUTES CHARGE OF INHUMANITY

British Admiralty Explains Why German Sailors Were Not Rescued.

MENACED BY ENEMY

Destroyer Prepared to Fire Torpedo and Aircraft to Drop Bombs.

London, June 15.—An admiralty communication was issued this evening concerning an allegation in German wireless despatches concerning inhumanity in the failure to rescue men of the torpedo boat destroyer S-20, which was sunk by the British squadron in its attack on the German naval base at Ostend, June 5.

The communication explains that the British officer engaged in the rescue found that the S-20 had its torpedoes trained on his vessel and three aeroplanes hovered overhead, which apparently were about to drop bombs. It says also that the British rescuing vessel was under fire from the shore batteries, and that the officer therefore ceased rescuing the Germans when seven of them had been picked up, as nothing further could be done and grave risks already had been incurred for the sake of humanity.

ADVANCE IN THESSALY CONTINUED BY FRENCH

Advanced Forces Have Occupied Demirli and Kardista on Railway Line.

Paris, June 15.—A French official communication, issued tonight, says: "In Thessaly the bulk of our troops are established around Larissa. Our advanced elements have occupied without any difficulty Demirli and Kardista, on the railroad running from Volo to Trikala."

Addington Member May Get Deputy Minister's Post

Special to The Toronto World. Kingston, June 15.—It is rumored here that William D. Black, M.L.A. for Addington, will be appointed deputy minister of game and fisheries in the Ontario Government.

PARTY BITTERNESS MAY BE UNCURBED

Conscription Measure Will, it is Feared, Give Rise to Acrimonious Debate.

WAITING FOR HUGHES

Sir Sam May Give New Angle to Discussion of Bill.

By a Staff Reporter. Ottawa, June 15.—The disorder and bitter party feeling in the house this afternoon, when Hon. Mr. Sevigny's estimates were under consideration, might seem to foreshadow a bitter acrimonious debate on the conscription bill next week. Sir Robert Borden, however, has already appealed for a fair and moderate discussion, and an effort will be made to restrain the more hot-headed and impetuous supporters of conscription from aggravating a rather delicate situation. The general impression is that the bill will carry by a good majority and that it will be supported not only by a number of Quebec Conservative members, but also by a few Quebec Liberals.

The prime minister will move the second reading on Monday. His speech is expected to be brief and conciliatory, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier will no doubt define his position with marked moderation.

It is rumored, however, that Sir Sam Hughes may follow in a vigorous speech which will take both the party leaders to task and will give a new angle to the discussion. Sir Sam long ago advocated bringing the Militia Act into force by order-in-council, and he is said to still be of the opinion that the proposed legislation is unnecessary, and is designed to delay rather than hasten compulsory service.

VENIZELIST GOVERNMENT TO GO TO ATHENS SOON

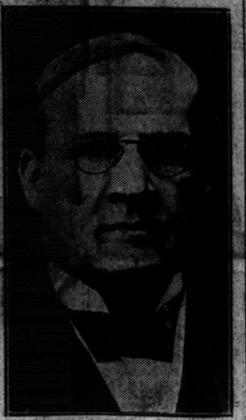
Expect to Convoke Chamber of Deputies Elected Two Years Ago.

Salonica, June 15, via London.—It is expected that the Venizelist government will soon be transferred to Athens, and will convoke the chamber of deputies elected in May, 1915, which the followers of former Premier Venizelos maintain was dissolved illegally by King Constantine.



MAY CONTROL FOOD.

Ottawa, June 15.—It is believed that W. Sanford Evans of Windsor, chairman of the Georgian Bay Canal Commission, will be given the post of food controller for Canada. He was in conference with the Dominion Cabinet this afternoon.



BRITAIN'S FOOD DICTATOR.

London, June 15.—Baron Rhonda, president of the local government board, said it was announced in the house of commons today, has been appointed food controller, Baron Rhonda, who was David A. Thomas, the British coal agent before his elevation to the peerage in 1916, succeeds Viscount Devonport, resigned.

LIBERTY LOAN GOES TO HUGE FIGURES

Landslide of Untabulated Returns Buries Washington Officials Completely.

BIG HOST SUBSCRIBES

Total May Reach Two Billion Eight Hundred Million Dollars.

Washington, June 15.—The American people have responded to the government's call for funds to finance the war by over-subscription to the liberty loan of proportions so huge that officials are buried beneath a landslide of untabulated returns.

No one could say at 10 o'clock tonight how great the result was. Apparently it was overwhelming beyond the most sanguine hopes of treasury officials. Not one of the federal reserve banks could hazard more than an estimate of its total.

In the country's ringing answer to the call the dominant note was the voice of the small investor. His money came in in the form of small contributions, and that nearly three million men and women had bought bonds.

In the absence of official figures tonight, officials hesitated to predict how high the total would soar. It mounted every hour to new heights and assumed such proportions that there was an apparent inclination to accept with some alacrity the rosy estimates of local liberty loan committees as to the totals of their districts.

BRITISH AIRMEN'S BOMBS WRECK FOE'S AERODROME

London, June 15.—"A squadron of British airplanes bombed the aerodrome at St. Denis Westrem (Belgium) this morning," says an official statement issued tonight. "A large number of bombs were dropped on objectives. Very good shooting appears to have been made. Many direct hits were observed, from which dense columns of smoke arose. All our machines returned safely."

IRISH GET RELEASE AS EXPERIMENT

British Government Frees Sinn Feiners to Assist Convention.

TO PROMOTE HARMONY

Action Has as Motive Securing of Goodwill of Factions.

London, June 15.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa agency.)—In the house of commons today Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, announced the government's decision to release Irish political prisoners. He said that the government had long and anxiously considered the position of the Irish political prisoners, and had arrived at the decision which it was now his duty to announce. The government felt after carefully considering the approaching session of the convention in which Irishmen themselves would meet to settle the difficult problem of the future administration of their country, that this great experiment would give a new era in the relations between Ireland, the United Kingdom and the empire.

It was therefore beyond measure desirable that the convention should meet in an atmosphere of harmony and goodwill, in which all parties could unreservedly join. Nothing could be more regrettable than that the work of the convention should be prejudiced by the fact that it was held in a spirit of bitterness and ill-will.

"In the circumstances the government," he said, "have decided that they cannot give a better earnest of the spirit in which they approach the convention than by removing one of the main causes of serious misunderstanding with which it is in their power to settle. They have decided, therefore, upon the release of all the prisoners now in confinement in connection with this great rebellion in Ireland. They have not, however, arrived at this decision without careful consideration of two aspects of the case which it is impossible to ignore. They have satisfied themselves, in the first place, that public security will not be endangered by such an act of grace, and secondly, that in none of the cases concerned was participation in the rebellion accompanied by individual acts which would render such a display of clemency impossible.

"In recommending his majesty to grant a general amnesty to the persons in question, the government are inspired by the sanguine hope that their action will be welcomed in a spirit of magnanimity, and that the convention will enter upon its arduous undertaking under circumstances that will constitute a good augury for reconciliation, which is the desire of all parties in every part of the United Kingdom and the empire."

Mr. Devlin expressed the gratitude of the Nationalists for the government's action, which representatives of the Liberal and Labor parties cordially approved.

U. S. TANK STEAMER SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINE

Standard Oil Vessel Succumbs to Foe After Running Fight.

Washington, June 15.—The American tank steamer Moreni was sunk by a German submarine June 12, after a running fight of two hours. Four of the crew lost their lives. The Moreni was owned by the Standard Oil Company, and sailed from New York May 17 for Livorno, Italy. She was a ship of 404 tons gross, and was built in Bremerhaven, Germany, in 1913.

Sir Douglas Haig Secures Another Important Section Northwest of Bullecourt, in Early Morning Attack—Considerable Gains Made in Attacks East of Messines.

London, June 15.—The British forces today delivered an attack upon and captured further positions of the Hindenburg line northwest of Bullecourt, despite the resistance of the Germans, who suffered heavy casualties, according to the official communication issued tonight.

"Early this morning we attacked and captured a further portion of a sector of the Hindenburg line situated behind the enemy northwest of Bullecourt. The hostile garrison offered stubborn resistance and suffered heavy casualties. We took 45 prisoners."

"We also captured a few prisoners as the result of successful raids east of Lens and in the neighborhood of the River Lys."

"Our own and the enemy artillery were active during the day, north of the Somme and at a number of points between Arras and Ypres."

"Four German airplanes were brought down yesterday in air fighting, and three of these were driven down out of control. Two of our machines failed to return."

"Our troops attacked yesterday evening the Ypres-Comines Canal. The enemy's resistance was quickly overcome, and the whole of our objectives were gained in both localities. We captured more than 150 prisoners, one howitzer and seven machine guns."

"As the result of these operations and the constant pressure maintained by our troops since June 7 we now occupy the German front trenches from the River Lys to the River Warnave, and have advanced our line from 500 to 1000 yards on the whole front, from the Lys to the River Kleve Zillebeke, a distance of about seven miles."

"We made a successful raid last night north of Lens. Many Germans were killed in hand-to-hand fighting, and a few prisoners were taken by us."

AUSTRALIA'S REVENUE SHOWS FALLING OFF

Surplus Cut, Public Debt Increases, Customs Receipts Drop.

Melbourne, Australia, June 15 (via Reuters' Ottawa agency).—The federal treasurer announced in the house of representatives today that for the fiscal year ending June 30 the revenue of the commonwealth would amount to £23,500,000, and that despite the surplus of three million pounds carried over from the previous year, the surplus of revenue over expenditure on June 30 would be only £1,270,000. The public debt, he said, amounted to £166,000,000, including war loans totalling £125,000,000. The treasurer said it would be inexpedient to deal with the estimates for the coming year, or to indicate imperative measures necessary for the energetic prosecution of the war. The position was very difficult. Customs receipts were expected to show a falling off of some ten million pounds, owing to the shrinkage of imports.

Premier Hughes expressed the hope that the house would assist the government to formulate a scheme to secure sufficient recruits for the overseas forces.

The laborites objected to a secret session for this purpose.

To Impose Five Per Cent. Tax On U. S. Newspapers' Profits

Washington, June 15.—A new tax of five per cent on the net profits of all newspapers and magazine publishers was written into the war tax bill today by the senate finance committee, in lieu of the two per cent advertising tax previously agreed upon and of the second class mail rate increase proposed in the house bill.

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