

THE CAMPAIGN IN EAST AFRICA VIRTUALLY ENDED IN GREAT BRITISH VICTORY

GREAT BOER GENERAL ARRIVES IN BRITAIN

Praises Native Troops For Bravery—They Will Pursue Remnant of German Forces Left in East Africa.

London, March 12.—Lt-General Jan Christian Smuts, former commander of the expedition against the German forces in East Africa, and who recently was made a privy councillor, arrived in England today. Speaking of the situation on the East African battlefield Lt-General Smuts said:

"The campaign in East Africa is virtually ended. After the rainy season in March and April the Germans will be obliged either to surrender or enter Portuguese territory, where the Portuguese are ready to deal with them.

"Native Troops Good.

"The operations against the remnant of German forces I have undertaken by native troops I have trained

AMERICAN SHIPS ENTERING GERMAN SUBMARINE ZONE WILL CARRY ARMED GUARD

Washington, Mar. 12.—The United States government today took the only formal step that will precede the sailing for the war zone of American merchant ships armed to resist attacks by German submarines. Notice to the world of the intention to place an armed guard on merchantmen was given in a communication sent by the state department to all embassies and legations in Washington. Officials continued to be reticent today about the arming of ships and the probable date the vessels would be ready to sail. All such details are regarded as military secrets. In fact there is a general disposition to avoid discussing any phase of the situation pending the outcome of the defiance of the submarine menace by American vessels with naval guns and gunners on board.

Preparations for any eventualities are going forward, but the president is known still to cling to the hope that there will be no actual clash between America's merchantmen and German submarines.

Will Build U-Boat Chasers.

Preliminary steps were taken by the navy department today toward contracting for the quick construction of one hundred or more high-speed coast patrol boats of a new type for scouting against submarines.

HAS FRANCE NEW JOAN OF ARC TO LEAD ARMY?

Rome, via Paris, Mar. 12.—The Vatican is taking a great interest in the reported visit of Mile Perchaud, the command she is supposed to have received instructing her to lead the French armies to victory. A report already has been received from the clergy in the latest of the archbishopric there.

Mile Perchaud, 30 years of age, daughter of a farmer of the department of Le Mans, has stirred the imagination of the French by her declaration, like Joan of Arc, she has visions and heard voices commanding her to guide the armies of France to victory.

At present Mile Perchaud is living in a Paris boarding house conducted by nuns.

HISTORY'S VERDICT.

Sir Robert Borden has a new supporter, whose admiration for the Premier's leadership of this nation knows no bounds. All those who can read know of this latest admirer. He is unquestionably one of the greatest living statesmen. He cannot be accused of prejudice with regard to Canadian politics. His verdict is authoritative, impartial, absolute, convincing, based in a thorough understanding of the facts.

Theodore Roosevelt is the man. Roosevelt is not only a statesman, a scientist, an explorer, a sportsman and a publicist. He is also in his own right a Canadian.

The latest addition of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica" quotes his judgment on more than one historical question.

His unqualified approval of Sir Robert Borden's course and war policies may be taken as the verdict of history.

Roosevelt writes on "The Lesson Taught by Canada" in the March number of The Metropolitan Magazine. He says, in part:

"Canada was not too proud to fight. She scorned the ignoble road of shirking her duty and letting others protect her. Her effort in men is relatively as great as if we had raised five million soldiers. Her money effort is equivalent to what this nation (the United States) would have done if it had contributed over a billion dollars in relief funds. There never has been finer work done under the old volunteer system than by Canada."

Roosevelt goes on to explain the various measures taken by the Canadian government for the relief of returned soldiers, displaying as usual a complete understanding of this work in all phases. He describes the Government pension system as "liberal" and as "a great improvement upon what was done in our civil war."

To show the spirit of Canada, Roosevelt quotes from the "notable speech" delivered by Sir Robert Borden at New York last November, commenting: "The head of a nation is indeed fortunate who can report such action by the nation." He regrets space does not permit him to quote at length from this "really noble speech," but he gives a number of the striking words which he says will be learned to learn useful and vital lessons from them.

"This is the spirit by which a world peace will eventually be won," is the estimate by Roosevelt of Sir Robert Borden's pronouncements.

The Canadian Premier has won the boundless admiration of Theodore Roosevelt not by the glittering arts of a graceful personality but by the solid merits of inspiring policies, which have invoked and accommodated the high spirit of the Canadian people at a time of world crisis.

The national leadership which can win the enthusiastic approval of Theodore Roosevelt will make the name of Sir Robert Borden great in history, for no living writer is better fitted than the great American to judge impartially and intelligently the conduct of statesmen in time of war.

CANADIAN STATSMEN IN ENGLAND.

(Canadian Gazette, London, Eng.)

A hearty welcome to Sir Robert Borden, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Hazen. No Canadian statesmen have ever come to England on more momentous business, and none has been received in a more practical spirit of Empire partnership than, we believe, they will be received by Mr. Lloyd George and his colleagues. Their prime purpose is to consider with British and other Dominion ministers in the war cabinet and the imperial conference how the united strength of the Empire may be brought most powerfully to bear upon the enemy and in support of the Allied cause both now and after the war. Their presence will in itself be striking evidence of the spirit of Canada in this grave crisis of our history, for the summons found the Canadian government in the midst of most difficult problems and only at great personal and public inconvenience were the Prime Minister and his colleagues able to leave the Dominion. But nothing can damp Canadian zeal. Toronto thought she had outpaced all rivals when she raised \$3,250,000 for the Canadian Patriotic and Red Cross Fund. On Friday night last Montreal's total was \$4,300,000, including \$225,000 from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and \$700,000—equivalent to a day's pay—from Canadian employees. As Lord Shaughnessy said this will, we may hope, be the last appeal.

The St. John High didn't do a thing to the St. Paul church senior basketball team last night, when they trimmed them to the tune of 38-11. The victory for the High School is attributed to the accurate shooting of Willet, who piled in no less than eleven field goals. The St. Paul boys were also at loss on their combination, and in this the High team excelled their adversaries. During the second half Waddington repeated McKay and put up a stellar game. The line up of the teams was as follows:

| | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|
| St. Paul's | White | Seely |
| St. Paul's | Cochrane | Evans |
| St. Paul's | Centre | Sutherland (Capt.) |
| St. Paul's | Flaming | Guards |
| St. Paul's | Hatfield | McKay |
| St. Paul's | Cross (Capt.) | Arnold |

HOW COL. C. JACK MERSEREAU SAVED THE FIGHTING TENTH

Lieut. Col. Percy A. Guthrie of Kilties, at Luncheon to Gallant Officer, Unfolds Some Unwritten History of Second Battle of Ypres.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Mar. 12.—At the New Brunswick Kilties officers' mess, today, a complimentary luncheon was tendered Lt. Col. C. Jack Mersereau, G.S.O., New Brunswick Command, on completion of his inspection of 238th. After an excellent menu had been disposed of Lt. Col. Percy A. Guthrie, commanding officer of the Kilties, proposed a toast to the distinguished guest and in so doing unfolded some unwritten history of the second battle of Ypres.

Canadians Stemmed Tide.

After briefly sketching the military career of the whiting staff officer from the old militia days at Camp Sussex, when the present lieutenant colonel was with a corps of guides to his becoming staff major of the brigade at Tidworth Camp, England, the speaker carried the story to Flanders during the titanic days of April, 1915, when the Canadians in Ypres salient stemmed the tide of German onslaughts.

At that period Colonel Mersereau was on the staff of the 2nd Brigade, having only recently arrived at the front. An order having been given for the 10th Battalion to advance to a certain position which had been carried out would have left both flanks up in the air. The situation was saved by the prompt and heroic work of the staff over. Seeing danger which carrying out of the order would have placed the battalion in, Colonel Mersereau wrote out new orders and not satisfied to have the message delivered by an orderly in the usual way, advanced across the open to the 10th. Hardly had he left his dugout when bursting shrapnel tore an ugly hole in his skull. He lost his sense of balance but by a great effort kept his nerve and finally managed by short bursts of running to reach his objective and delivered the message to Col. Guthrie.

Effort Saved the 10th.

The effort saved the Fighting Tenth. Subsequently Colonel Mersereau was found unconscious in a dugout, his wounds were bandaged and he was sent to a hospital, but it was a long time before his identity was discovered, and months before he finally recovered his power of speech. He returned to Canada and his proved ability soon won him a staff position and once more he is hopeful to be back on the firing line. In fact Colonel Guthrie said that Colonel Mersereau was soon to return to a staff position on the western front with the Canadians.

Col. Mersereau Replies.

In acknowledging remarks of his host, Col. Mersereau said that his greatest cause for regret was that his period at the front had been so brief and that if opportunity offered he

HONEST CRITICISM

The Toronto Globe quotes with approval the London Times which recently said that "the new Lloyd-George government is rapidly and rightly receiving its share of criticism." The Globe adds that "to those in Canada who would shut-down criticism it is refreshing to hear the Thunder state that 'every government is the better for it, so long as critics are honest and informed.'"

No one will find fault with the above statement of the Times. The Borden government has never objected to just and honest criticism. In fact it has always welcomed it. But it certainly cannot be held by the Globe that criticism of the Borden Government has always been "honest and informed." Critics of the type of Carvell, Kite and Geo. P. Graham are not in that class. These men thrive only on falsehood and misinformation. Their attacks on Sir Robert Borden and his cabinet colleagues have always been tinged with personal malice and a low brand of political partisanship. That brand of criticism is not in the public interest.

PERSONALS

Lieutenant Wetmore of the 238th Kilties Battalion passed through the city last night en route to Halifax.

OBITUARY

Mrs. John F. Walker.

The death is announced in Cambridge, Mass., of Mrs. Ada M. Walker, wife of John F. Walker, formerly of St. John. The funeral will be held today.

The weekly Nation, an English journal which assisted Germany powerfully before the war by its pacifist policy, published an anonymous letter severely criticizing Sir Robert Borden. It says, "If the Laurier Government was corrupt it amused people and did things." Certainly, it amused the writer of that letter. "It did things?" Yes. It did many things that made it much harder for this government to finance the war. In this connection we mention only the G. T. F. bargain.

The weekly review would naturally have little love for Sir Robert Borden, or the late Lord Roberts, or for any one else who opposed its pacifism, and it would naturally be pleased to publish this insulting letter, but Canadian newspapers who would pay toll to cable such insults home have no reason to complain of hard times. It is folly to be so extravagant in "the transportation of offensive abuse when it can be manufactured quite as well at home. The whole affair is a dirty scheme to lessen Sir Robert's influence at the Imperial Conference by alleging that his government is "corrupt" and "discredited," and that he will only be "the tame cat of Lord Milner." He is represented in England as being "dull." Is there a Liberal member of parliament who echoes the charge? He is by far the biggest, brainiest man in the parliament of Canada. If he is dull this is a nation of dunces, and the English periodical which published the article insulted every citizen of Canada, and the newspapers which identified the letter by publishing it here assisted the petty scheme of a Little Englander.

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FRENCH PREMIER OF I

Similar to When He

Paris, Feb. 24.—(Continued from page 1.)

In a situation which the parliament itself preceded his first fall Feb. 1911. There is no belief that he may resign.

A public vote, in which senators are obliged to vote before the government a

Both houses seem to be in a state of confusion. In 1911, making himself explained, in the chamber, how and interpellators in taking the greater part needed for the conduct

Spoke Three

The day after the From Home he was three hours at a budget committee, would be the author new under-secretary members of the arm foreign relations con- vanced committee of nounced that they Briand's attention further detail explain the high command Greek situation and that already had been the secret session of senate.

The budget comm- accept the governm- new taxes, and the is laion reported ur- premier's request for by decree on urgen- accrees to be regul- tion afterwards. The development apper- ed that the request Briand was really a terial declaration to the formation of the stituting a part of gramme.

Successor N

Well posted politi- committees is quite Briand to the same took under similar 1911. The statement Duchesnel apper- in president of the cha-

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