

Holland Massing Troops on German Frontier McKenna Introduces Budget in British House Explosion in English Powder Mill, 200 Victims

HOLLAND WONDERS WHAT GERMAN WILL DO IF SHE THINKS THE BRITISH WILL LAND TROOPS ON DUTCH SHORES

Former Minister of War in Holland Talks Frankly on the Situation--Regarding Britain, it is "Not What We Think, But What Germany Thinks."

WHY WERE MINES SOWN?

One Suggestion is That Germans Put Mines Off the Dutch Coast to Stop British Boats From Landing.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
Rome, via London, April 4.—Wireless reports from Zurich state that Holland has closed her German frontier and massed all her available forces there.

Amsterdam, via London, April 4.—"I do not for a moment suggest there is a possibility that Great Britain intends to land troops on the Dutch coast," said former Minister of War Colyn to-day in an interview regarding recent mysterious military preparations in Holland. "We have the assurance of Britain that she will respect our neutrality and we rely on that assurance. But the question is what does Germany think of this? "If the Germans begin seriously to be afraid of such a contingency, namely the landing of British troops in Holland, what influence will that have on Germany's attitude towards us? We must assume that she is acquainted with our defensive capacity, and considers that a British invasion into Germany through Holland is to be feared, would it then be strange if we were approached from the German side with proposals to which we cannot submit, because they would mean the abandonment of our neutrality toward the allies? "I know that against this it may be said that the British will not make a landing in Holland, and that if they did try we are quite capable of stopping a British march eastward or southeastward. But that is not relevant. The question is not what we

think, but what the Germans think." Jonkher Colyn added that there was an increasing possibility of conflict on both sides, and while a waiting attitude might be adopted towards Great Britain, something positive should be done with regard to Germany. He suggested the strengthening of the Dutch forces, in order to make clear to Germany that Holland has the power and the intention to prevent a menace to Germany's opening flank.

THE MINE SOWING.

New York, April 4.—The London correspondent of the Tribune says: "A fanciful explanation of Germany's activity in sowing mines in the North Sea, especially along the coast of Holland, outside the three-mile limit, was given to me to-day. My informant asserted that Germany was convinced that the Allies were about to land troops in Holland with the consent of the Dutch Government, which is angered by the repetition of the German outrages to which she has been forced to submit, and which is about to assert the Netherlands' rights. These mines, my informant states, were planted in the hope of handicapping the transportation of troops to Holland."

Whether there is any basis of truth in the report it is impossible to say. In any case all Dutch reports, no matter how wild, must be considered as developments of extraordinary importance are going on there now.

(Continued on Page 4)

18 More Men for the 215th

Recruiting for the 215th battalion still continues satisfactorily, the enlistment during the past few days having been especially good. Since Saturday, 18 new men have signed up. Of this number Canadians lead, with 7; five are English, and of the remainder there are one each Irish, Scotch, American, Maltese, Armenian and Russian. A nephew of Councilor Greenwood of Brantford township and Brant County Council, is in the list. The new names are—

- HODSON Edward, 31 Brighton Place, English, 24, polisher.
CRANDALL WM. JAMES, 334 Marlboro St., Canadian, 20 farmer.
MILLER DEWEY, Scotland, Ont., Canadian, 18, farmer.
NORRIE JAS. L., R. R. No 4, Brantford, American, 28, clerk.
YOUNG RICHARD, Paris Road, Scotch, 18, farmer.
MATOSIAN H., 240 Park Ave., Armenian, 26, moulder.
VALE WM. X., 32 Mohawk St., English, 27, woodworker.
ARMITAGE Archie J., 138 Wellington Street, 20, sign writer.
BOWDEN Chas. C., 4 Ontario St., English, 33, contractor.
HOWICK ERNEST, 13 1-2 Wallace street, English, 32, gardener.
BEEMER DAVID, Scotland, Ont., Canadian, 37, farmer.
CARABEZ BLAS, care Brantford Club, Maltese, 27, Steward.
EASTON ROSS E., Wilsonville, Canadian, 21, farmer.
GREENWOOD PAUL E., Brantford P.O., Canadian, 20, farmer.
COOKE JAS. ORR, Mohawk Road, Irish, 42, Janitor.
SIKORSKI JOHN, 157 Pearl St., Russian, 30, Patternmaker.
ISAAC PETER, 140 Alfred St., Canadian, 33, laborer.
HUNT ALFRED JOE, 194 Brant Avenue, English, 33, freight conductor.

BRITAIN WILL PUT TAX ON AMUSEMENTS

Mr. McKenna Announces That in His Budget Speech.

By Special Wire to the Courier.
London, April 4.—In opening his budget speech in the House of Commons to-day, Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said it was assured that the war would last during the whole of the financial year. Mr. McKenna said a generous allowance would have to be made for the difficulty of framing exact estimates in view of such questions as the shortage of tonnage and restriction upon foreign trade, and he had assumed that the war would last during the whole of the financial year. The actual expenditure during the past year was £1,559,000,000 or £31,000,000 below the estimate, said the chancellor. Great Britain's allies had been assisted to the amount of £264,000,000 and her Dominions to the amount of £52,000,000.

TAX ON AMUSEMENTS.
In his budget speech in the House of Commons to-day, Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, proposed putting a tax on amusements, including theatres, moving picture theatres, football matches and horse races. The tax on these would be graduated according to the charge for admission.

HALF PENNY ADDED.
London, April 4, 4:43 P.M.—An additional half penny tax on sugar was proposed in Chancellor of the Exchequer McKenna's budget speech. This, it was calculated, would produce a revenue of £5,000,000.

Brantford's Budget for 1916

An Estimate of the Receipts and the Expenditures for the Current Year.

The following report, together with the estimated receipts and expenditures was presented last night at the City Council and adopted without discussion. The figures show all citizens just how much Brantford expects to receive and to spend for the year 1916.

To the Mayor and Council of the City of Brantford
Gentlemen,—Your Finance committee present herewith a statement of estimated receipts and expenditures of the municipality for the year 1916, and recommend that a by-law be passed levying and assessing for at the rate of 25 mills in the dollar on all property assessed for Public School purposes, and 26 1-2 mills on the dollar on all property assessed for Separate School purposes, exclusive of local improvements. These rates include one mill on the dollar for the Provincial Government war tax, and one mill on the dollar for local war tax, covering grants to Patriotic and Red Cross Funds, etc., and are to be assessed on all taxable property, without consideration of fixed assessment. Signed by the Finance Committee and the Committee Chairman of the Council.

RECEIPTS.

Miscellaneous	\$2,000 00
Tax arrears	4,127 00
Licenses and permits	2,750 00
Market Fees	1,850 00
Ontario Railway Tax	640 00
Interest on Gas Company bonds	1,500 00
Police Fines	640 00
Balance on Patriotic By-law 1915	3,750 00
Cemeteries	2,000 00
Sundries	3,500 00
Total	\$22,117 00

Municipal Utilities	\$48,000 00
Hydro Electric	17,221 00
Municipal Street Railway	18,314 00
Total	\$83,535 00

Special Taxes:	
Local Improvements	\$68,202 00
Street Watering and Oiling	13,000 00
Sanitary Collection	1,500 00
Total	\$82,702 00

Poll Tax	300 00
General Taxes:	
Waterworks at 24 mills, for general purposes	\$465,228 00
\$795,000 at School Rate only	5,721 00
\$795,000 C.T.R. at half mill	397 00
Extra Tax on property of Separate School Support-ers \$903,000 at half mill	451 00
Ontario Government War Tax \$17,672,000 at 1 mill	17,672 00
Local War Tax, \$17,672,000, at 1 mill	17,672 00
Total	\$447,841 00

Less estimated uncollectable business tax and income	1,841 00
Total	\$446,000 00

EXPENDITURE

Special Taxes:	
Local Improvement, Interest and sinking Fund	\$68,202 00
Street Watering and Oiling	13,000 00
Sanitary Collection	2,000 00
Total	\$83,202 00

General Interest and Sinking Fund:	
Exclusive of Municipal Utilities, Schools, Library and Parks	70,339 00
Municipal Utilities, Interest and Sinking Fund:	
Waterworks	\$43,760 00
Hydro Electric	17,221 00
Municipal Street Railway	18,314 00
Total	79,295 00

Education:	
Public Schools, Interest and Sinking Fund	18,984 00
Collegiate Institute	4,600 00
Collegiate Institute, Interest and Sinking Fund	6,122 00
Library	6,800 00
Library, Interest and Sinking Fund	414 00
Separate Schools	5,670 00
Total	135,790 00

Charity:	
House of Refuge	\$ 4,500 00
Hospital	18,000 00
Sanitarium	4,000 00
Relief, Children's Aid, etc.	2,600 00
Total	29,100 00

Parks:	
Maintenance	\$7,082 00
Interest and Sinking Fund	4,000 00
Interest on Mohawk Park	\$1,114 00
Total	8,622 00

Health:	
Medical Health Officer	\$1,200 00
Local Board	800 00
Total	2,000 00

Justice:	
County of Brant	\$ 6,953 00
Police Magistrate	2,560 00
Police Department	20,685 00
Total	30,198 00

Provincial War Tax	17,672 00
Local War Contribution:	
Red Cross (paid in 1915)	\$ 5,000 00
Patriotic Fund	15,000 00
Expenses re Military	1,412 00
Total	21,412 00

General Service:	
Water, exclusive of streets	\$19,300 00
Elections	850 00
Salaries of Executive	16,000 00
Legal, Salary and Costs	4,600 00
Printing and Stationery	1,300 00
Street Lighting	27,300 00
Cemeteries	2,900 00
Buildings and Grounds	3,500 00
Maintenance of Streets and Works	25,252 00
Market Inspector	750 00
Maintenance of Fire Department	25,000 00
First Payment on New Fire Truck	2,371 00
Garbage Collection	12,100 00
Patients in Provincial Institutions	850 00
Grant to St. Joseph's Cemetery	500 00
Incidental	5,997 00
Total	156,884 00

TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE \$634,954 00
NOTE—By resolution of the council the cost of repairs, improvements and extensions to wiring systems and cost of waiting station on the market are to be provided for out of proceeds of sale of the Waterworks property to C. J. Mitchell.

POWDER MILL EXPLODED IN ENGLAND; OVER 200 KILLED AND WOUNDED

Germans Cease for the Time Being all Infantry Attacks on Verdun, Says Paris, but Berlin Claims Further Gains MINOR SUCCESS IN ALSACE

British Re-take Mine Crater at St. Eloi -- Things Quiet in the East and the Balkans.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, April 4, 12.49 p.m.—The explosion of a powder factory in Kent has caused the death or injury of 200 persons, it was announced officially to-day.

The following statement was given out: "The ministry of munitions reports with great regret that during the week ended a serious fire broke out in a powder factory, which led to a series of explosions in the works. The fire was purely accidental. It was discovered at mid-day and the last of the explosions took place shortly after two in the afternoon. "The approximate number of casualties is 200."

NO INFANTRY ATTACKS.

Paris, April 4, 12.10 p.m.—No infantry attacks were made last night by the Germans in the Verdun region, the War Office announced this afternoon. The French continued their heavy bombardment along the Douaumont-Vaux front, northeast of Verdun. The response was feeble. There were violent artillery exchanges near Avocourt and Malancourt.

The text of the statement follows: "In the Argonne district we have bombarded certain of the German organizations, particularly in the region of Montfaucon and Malancourt. "To the west of the River Meuse there has been artillery fighting of considerable violence along the front from Avocourt as far as Malancourt. East of the Meuse the night passed relatively quietly. "The Germans have made no attacks against the front between Douaumont and Vaux, re-established by

our counter-attacks of yesterday. "French batteries have been particularly active in firing upon enemy positions in this region. The enemy has responded but feebly. "East of the forest of Le Pretre a strong reconnaissance by the enemy has been dispersed by our fire. "In Alsace French batteries were successful in shelling a German supply train on the highway between Thann and Muelhausen."

BERLIN'S CLAIM.

Berlin, April 4, via London.—Strong French positions southwest of Douaumont and in the Callette wood, northwest of Verdun, have been taken by German troops, the War Office announced to-day.

Recapture by the British of a mine crater at St. Eloi, south of Ypres, which the Germans had been occupying, is also recorded in the official statement.

The text is as follows: "Western Theatre: After powerful artillery preparation, the British have taken possession of the crater south of St. Eloi, which we took from them on the 28th of March. "In the region of the fortress of Douaumont, our troops after bitter fighting captured on April 3 some strong French defence positions southwest and south of the fortress and in Callette wood. They repulsed from the captured positions all the enemy's counter-attacks which continued into the night. Employing exceedingly strong forces and at the cost of extremely heavy sacrifices, the French repeatedly and fruitlessly

(Continued on page 4)

CRESCENT OIL CO. OF HAMILTON GIVEN CONTRACT TO SUPPLY OIL FOR CITY STREETS AFTER A LONG DISCUSSION

Board of Works' Recommendation to That Effect the Subject of Much Debate Last Night, But Finally Was Adopted, Ald. Mellen Dissenting—Roller Rink License Application Turned Down by Vote of 10 to 4.

WHAT THE COUNCIL DID

1. Turned down application for roller rink license.
2. Awarded Oil contract to Crescent Oil Co. of Hamilton, after a very long discussion.
3. Decided to ask for tenders to build meat stalls in the market house.
4. Referred a petition objecting the new Jam Co's factory, to the Manufacturer's committee.
5. Passed a by-law allowing an extension of a switch into the Ham and Nott factory.
6. Fixed theatre licenses—Grand Opera House and movies at \$100; movies and vaudeville houses at \$150.
7. Heard a deputation complain against the L. E. and N. obstructing the roadways in Holmedale. The mayor said the remedy lay in the police court, but the Board of Works will take up the matter.
8. Put through a resolution, asking the City Engineer to see that the trees on the Western Counties property by the Murray Street Bridge be cut down, as they obstruct the view and make it dangerous for people driving.
9. Passed the recommendation of the Estimates Committee in three minutes.
10. Adjourned at 10.55 to meet Monday, April 17th.

The City Council as a rule seems to call special meetings when it is in a fighting mood, or, to be precisely correct, all the bitterness in debate comes out at special sessions. The regular sessions usually are tame, but businesslike affairs. Last night's session was a sort of half and half. Occasionally it threatened to become stormy; not a great deal of business was transacted, but the council did not adjourn until 10.55, and even then the members dispersed only when they discovered that there was not a quorum present. The most important thing at the meeting was to adopt the report of the Estimates Committee, which appears on another page. This took about three minutes. The real long discussion of the evening turned on the adoption of the report of the

(Continued on page 5)

COURIER'S DAILY CARTOON

THE GOAT



When the... BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE