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British Planes Fought 27 Combats, and French Had 33 Fights.

MANY AIR RAIDS

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Linden, Cable.—Unusual aerial activity, favored by the fine weather, is reported all along the British and French lines at the front, particularly in the region of Lille, Verdun and Metz.

Twenty-seven combats in the air took place on the British front. An albatross was attacked and driven down, wrecked, near Lille. Another was driven down north of Verdun in a damaged condition. A third, attacked by one of the British scouts, was seen to turn upside down near the ground. One of the British reconnaissance machines failed to return. It was seen to land under control in hostile territory. One of the British scout aeroplanes also is missing. A great deal of successful aerial photographic work was accomplished.

VENICE BOMBED.

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Austrian Airmen Raid Italy—Cadorna's Men Retaliate.

Rome, Cable.—Raids by Austrian aeroplanes on Venice and several other cities are reported in to-night's official communication, which reads: "Enemy air raids are reported in various places on the lower Isonzo on the night of the 23rd; on Venice and Mestre on the evening of the 23rd; on Udine and Treviso at dawn on the 24th, with comparatively few casualties and very slight damage."

"A squadron of our Caproni aircraft bombarded at dawn the railway station at Ovestigo and enemy encampments at Kostanovica, Lohyva and Segret, on the Carso. They dropped 50 bombs with success."

"Our squadron, though attacked by numerous batteries and by numerous enemy airmen, returned undamaged after having brought down two enemy aviators in the enemy lines near Gorizia."

UNTRUE WIFE PAID PENALTY

Husband Pled With Her to Return to His Love.

Shot Her When She Told of Her Plans.

Pittsburg, Pa., Report.—Mrs. Cora M. Ernst, aged 21, was shot three times and killed by her husband, William H. Ernst, aged 24, at the latter's home, 544 Kestrel street.

The shooting followed a family conference in which Mrs. Ernst's mother, two brothers and an aunt had participated. The fear latter had come on from their home in Frostburg, Md., in order to reconcile Mrs. Ernst and her husband. The woman's mother stood close by as Ernst whipped a revolver out of his pocket and emptied five chambers at his wife.

Mrs. Ernst asserted that she would not consent to a reconciliation, but that, on the contrary, she would seek a divorce and would marry another man.

When arrested, following the tragedy, Ernst stated that it was "this other man who caused my home to be broken up." He declared that the "other man's" name was Roger Sweeney, aged 28, and that he lived at 4826 Second avenue where, for the past two weeks, Mrs. Ernst, too, had resided.

"Well," said Ernst slowly, according to the police, after his wife had refused her mother's and his suggestion that they live together again, "if I can't have you no other man."

Then with a quick move to his hip pocket and before the woman could step from her position in front of him, the police say, Ernst thrust a revolver up her and fired. The wife dropped to the floor of the parlor, lifeless. One bullet had pierced her neck, another her liver. Two went wild. As she lay upon the floor, according to her mother, Ernst pointed the revolver down at her and fired a fifth time. The bullet penetrated the heart, so the coroner later announced. The mother, aunt and brothers had been too stupefied to move.

With one shot left in the gun Ernst, according to his mother-in-law, raised the weapon against his own forehead. Recovering her senses, she seized the gun and prevented his firing.

A hearing was to have been held before Alderman W. H. Williams, at which Ernst was to have answered his wife's charges of infidelity. She had had him arrested Friday morning on a charge of annoying her. HUSBAND TELLS OF TRAGEDY.

"What could a man do?" Ernst explained as the police took him into the South Thirteenth Street Station house. "I pleaded with my wife to come back for the sake of the home. Her mother, her aunt, her little brothers pleaded too. She turned upon all of us and replied: 'Never! I shall divorce you and have the man I want!'"

Ernst's eyes filled with tears as he told the story to the police sergeant, and sobbingly, he added:

"At these words my head swam. I could see nothing. I knew I had a revolver in my pocket and I seized it. Once in my hand, I pulled the trigger one time, two times, and—oh, I don't know how many times, I realized then what I had done. I had killed my wife!"

Sweeney, at his home, denied the charges of Ernst.

WORK OF SPIES

English Wires Cut During Recent Zeppelin Raid.

London, Cable.—Sir Arthur Hammett asked the Government in the House of Commons to-day whether the telegraph and telephone wires had been cut in the vicinity of a town on the east coast on the occasion of the recent Zeppelin raid.

Harold J. Tennant, Under-Secretary of State for War, replied that he could not confirm or contradict the suggestion, adding: "All I can say is that it is not in the public interest to make such a statement."

HELD FOR BAFF MURDER.

New York, Report.—Angelo Gagliano, a laundryman, was arrested here last night, charged with murder in the first degree, in connection with the shooting two years ago of Barnett Baff. Two others arrested in the case already have been convicted. The killing of Baff, a wholesale poultry dealer, was alleged to have been inspired by business rivals.

WOW!

(St. Louis Star)

"That young Hercules over there is a great unusual specimen."

"A sound mind in a sound body, eh?"

NO ONE KILLED

In Internment Camp Riot—Quiet Now.

Ottawa, Report.—That the report from Cochrane as to the outbreak at the internment camp at Kapuskasing "was grossly exaggerated," was the statement to-day by the officer in charge of internment operations here. A dispatch from Cochrane last night reported one killed, nine wounded, four of them fatally, and several injured. According to reports received at Ottawa this morning, no one was killed, but eight were slightly wounded.

The prisoners attacked the guard and were repelled at the point of the bayonet. The outbreak occurred last Friday, and Gen. Logie, of Hamilton, is now on the scene conducting an enquiry. His report is not expected for a few days. A wire from the camp this morning reports that all is quiet and that no further trouble is anticipated.

NEW HUN TAXES.

States Ministers Compromise On Imperial Rates.

Berlin, via London, Cable.—According to the Germania, the conference of the Finance Ministers of the various German states has resulted in a compromise on new imperial taxes, as follows:

Increases in postal, telegraph and telephone charges; an increase on bills of lading; a new tax on the taxpayer in business; a per mille tax on all property above 20,000 marks, which is only to be collected once. Furthermore, there will be a special tax on increases in property values exceeding 2,000 marks a year.

It is estimated that the new taxes will bring a revenue of 780,000,000 marks, as against 500,000,000 marks proposed by the Government's original plan.

The compromise is noteworthy, as meeting the wishes of the Socialists and Liberal parties for some form of direct property tax.

FIGHT FOR ISLE.

Pratt's Island, New York Harbor, in Dispute.

New York, Report.—Armed men in launches to-day took possession of Pratt's Island, a small bit of Richmond borough territory, lying in the harbor, after kidnapping the watchman, Jas. Farmer, whom the Vigilant Committee of the Staten Island Civic League, of Richmond borough, had placed on guard as part of its fight in opposition to a plan by the City of New York to erect a municipal plant on Pratt's Island. Some of the leading residents of Richmond have been talking of secession from the city if the plant is established, and Farmer had been instructed to prevent anyone from taking possession of the island.

The men who kidnapped Farmer bound and gagged him and took him in a launch to a Brooklyn wharf, where he was left, after being warned not to return. Releasing himself, he notified the police, who upon visiting the island, arrested fifteen men, who, according to the police, said they represented the plan of the contractors.

THE MOTORISTS' HAPPY DAYS

Reciprocity With New York Effective Saturday.

Toronto, Report.—Motor license reciprocity between Ontario and New York State will go into effect on Saturday, May 20th. The official announcement was made last night by Hon. Finlay Macdormid. The announcement refers only to New York, the negotiations with the authorities of the State of Michigan being still uncompleted to the extent that the Michigan officials have not advised the Highways Department here of the date on which they would prefer to have reciprocity made effective.

After Saturday, the motor license markers of the State of New York will have the same standing in Ontario as those of the province. Hon. Mr. Macdormid laid special emphasis upon this fact. It is desirable that police and other officials throughout the province become acquainted with the privilege extended to New York motorists in order that when they come into Ontario after Saturday without Ontario markers, as they will have a right to, they will not be annoyed or interfered with by officials laboring under the impression that they require Ontario licenses.

New York motorists will be permitted to come into Ontario without any license fee, even a nominal one, but they will be allowed to remain only three weeks upon the permit furnished them when they enter. Where they remain longer, they must pay the full license fee before leaving the province. Similar conditions will govern Ontario motorists going into New York State.

Hon. Mr. Macdormid expects to be in a position to announce the date of reciprocity with the State of Michigan within a few days.

By way of suitably celebrating the formal inauguration of license reciprocity, the Ontario Motor League, with the co-operation of the New York State Automobile Association, has arranged a fete to take place at the Falls, Friday.

The Hon. Finlay Macdormid, Minister of Public Works and Highways and head of the Provincial Bureau of Automobile Licenses, and the Hon. Francis M. Hugo, Secretary of State for New York State, met to discuss license exchange, will be present. The Hon. Mr. Macdormid, President L. B. Howland, and other members of the Motor League will occupy the first car crossing into New York State, formally signalling the establishment of license exchange, at the same time.

NEW SYSTEM OF IRISH CONTROL

Asquith Convinced Entirely New Plan Necessary.

Joins Irish Privy Council—Probe Opens To-day.

Linden, Cable.—Premier Asquith was sworn in as a member of the Irish Privy Council at Dublin this afternoon. This is the first time that an English Premier has been a Minister of this body.

It means that Mr. Asquith is likely to take a greater share in the executive government of Ireland than any of his predecessors have done, and that he will have a direct part in shaping the policy to be pursued in the immediate future.

Sir Mackenzie Chalmers, a member of the Royal Commission to investigate the Irish rebellion; Major-General Sir John Maxwell, Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland; and The O'Connor Don were also sworn in as members of the Irish Privy Council at the same time as Premier Asquith.

The Associated Press learns from sources in the closest touch with the Premier that Mr. Asquith's conversations and conferences have convinced him that the future government of Ireland must be conducted on an entirely different system.

His Belfast visit gave a good hint to the Premier that the Ulsterites would not accept a direct proposal implying Home Rule. But it is believed that they might be induced to enter into a concerted plan which could possibly be arranged to meet their most serious objections.

Mr. Asquith will visit Cork tomorrow to gather further opinions. He has, however, not arranged to see the politicians. Most of those with whom he will confer are of the literary and educational classes.

Dublin, May 17.—The first meeting of the Social Commission investigating the rebellion in Ireland will be held to-morrow. It was announced to-night.

THE FADDIST.

Grammarly—Want another new gown?

Mrs. G.—Yes, I will need one when I attend the lecture on domestic economy.

300,000 OF GERMANY'S BEST LOST IN VERDUN STRUGGLE

Tide Has Turned and the Kaiser Is Face to Face With Destiny.

Not Enough Men Left to Strike a Blow Anywhere Else.

London, Cable.—(New York Times cable)—The Daily Chronicle correspondent in Paris sends the following despatch:

"Although the German commanders do not confess failure in their Verdun enterprise by closing it down and cutting off the losses, the stress of public interest here, now altogether relieved of anxiety, is passing to other fields, where events of a different character are preparing."

"Now that 200,000 of the best German soldiers have been lost on the hillsides of the Meuse, a very grave and daily aggravated situation faces the Kaiser and his grand staff. The tide has definitely turned. From west and east their long-evaded destiny is closing in upon them."

"At no moment in the battle of Verdun have they dared to bring thither any unit from before the British front. Other parts of the German front have been stripped of all the superfluous strength and the force in Russia is similarly crippled to feed this advance. Since last September at least twenty-two divisions have been transferred from the east to the west front,

fifteen of these coming from Russia direct, and five or six others by way of Silesia or other indirect ways.

"There is thus left in Russia a mere curia of German troops, while Bulgaria and Turkey are being gradually left to shift for themselves."

"If the Germans contemplate a great offensive by land and sea against Riga and Dwina," said General Cherville to-day, "they will have to relinquish their forty-eight divisions of infantry. These, spread along a front of 300 miles, give less than one man per yard. It is little enough for defence. For an attack, ten men per yard are needed on the line chosen."

"Where are such reinforcements to come from? It is very doubtful whether the depots in Germany contain the necessary numbers, and the quality of German infantry has certainly much deteriorated. Nor would the wreckage of the battle of Verdun provide a striking force, even if the Crown Prince could disengage himself in that region."

"There is thus every reason to hope that with the close of the battle of Verdun there is opening a new and final stage of the war, in which its authors will be brought to reason, if not by imminent threat, then by the actual hand of famine and military disaster."

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PREMIERS OF GREAT DOMINIONS TO SETTLE IRELAND'S TROUBLE

Proposition That Canada, Australia and S. Africa Furnish Commission Gains Favor.

London, Cable.—One of the suggestions for dealing with the Irish problem which has gained many supporters in the past few days is for the appointment of a commission to ar-

range a settlement, the members of which will include Premier Borden, of Canada, Premier Hughes, of Australia, and Premier Botha, of South Africa.

Discussing this proposal, the Chronicle says editorially to-day:

"The settlement of the Irish question is not only a matter of great moment, but also a condition precedent to any scheme of imperial federation. There is thus a double reason for the co-operation of the Dominion Premiers."

London, Cable.—(New York Sun Cable)—It is officially announced that the Government has no intention of diminishing or suppressing the pensions awarded to those mutilated in the war, even if they are able to earn their own living through a new education.

The announcement removes a doubt which had been interfering with the work of re-education of the maimed.

MORE INVALIDS RETURNING.

Quebec, Que., Report.—The C.P.R. liner Metagama is due here Saturday next, with a large number of invalid soldiers returning home after overseas service. The vessel will also carry a large number of passengers, with mails and general cargo.

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SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Motor Car License Reciprocity Being Arranged With Three More States.

A BLIND KNITTER

Canadian Assistant to the Moderator of the Church of Scotland.

The Nova Scotia Legislature was prorogued.

Toronto's lawyers have declared against Mayor Church on the war tax dispute.

Motor car license reciprocity with three more States is being arranged by Ontario.

The 22nd Battalion (Highlanders) departed from Toronto to complete their training.

Fire caused \$50,000 damage in the factory of Wm. Croft & Sons, Wellington street, Toronto.

A "preparedness" campaign to keep Ontario "dry" will shortly be launched by the Ontario Alliance.

Charles Maboe, ex-Mayor of Tillsonburg, died as the result of injuries sustained in an accident on the race track.

Sectionmen of the C. W. & L. E. Railway are out on strike, pending a settlement of a dispute with the company.

George C. Holland, for forty-two years official shorthand reporter of the Canadian Senate, who took his "take" as usual this session, has resigned.

M. M. C. Reynolds, of Goderich, totally blind, and in her eightieth year, has knitted more than 125 pairs of socks for soldiers at the front.

The body of W. W. Cairns, formerly of Montreal, was found in the ruins of the Stovel printing establishment, burned two weeks ago in Winnipeg.

Sir Douglas Haig, Commander-in-Chief of the British forces at the front, has been asked by Sir Robert Borden to thoroughly test the Ross and Lee-Enfield rifles.

The body of six-year-old Thomas Arthur, drowned in Mill Creek on March 29, was recovered at Galt, some distance below the spot where the fatality occurred.

William Brooking, a well-known farmer of Hope Township, committed suicide by hanging himself from a beam in his barn. A severe illness had affected his mind.

The funeral of Capt. E. J. Kyle, adjutant of the 147th Battalion, held at Lindsay, was most impressive, being attended by a large number of university men and representatives of other interests with which he was associated.

At Folkestone Police Court, Staff Sergeant John Durand, of the 2nd Canadian Battalion, now attached as director of recruiting offices, was charged with a serious crime and was remanded without bail.

The Rev. T. Hunter Boyd, of the Canadian Presbyterian Church, who has been identified with Scotch emigration work, has been appointed assistant to the Rev. Dr. Brown, Ballahouston Parish, moderator designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

In what is supposed to have been a state of somnambulism Mrs. J. W. Clendenes, a patient at the Kingston General Hospital, walked out of a window on the second floor of the surgical ward, falling to the ground below, and dying a few hours later from the shock and injuries.

HON. BURRELL IS BACK.

Ottawa, Report.—Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, who was severely burned in the Parliament building fire of February 3rd, and who has since been convalescent in the south after nearly a month's confinement to his room in Ottawa, returned to his Parliamentary duties to-day.

Burrell has completely recovered from the burns, also from the nervous shock which he then sustained. His face has completely healed and remains unscarred.

BRITISH PENSIONS SCHEME.

London, Cable.—A scheme of war pensions for soldiers was announced in the Commons to-day by William Hayes Fisher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Local Government Board. It provides for grants of \$50 yearly to married and unmarried men called to the colors where financial hardships result. This is irrespective of the allowances already given soldiers' wives. It was announced that the assistance would be extended to include rents, insurance premiums, taxes, loans, and interest instalments.

HEAVY SNOW UP NORTH.

Fort William, Report.—Trainmen coming in from the railways, both east and west report heavy snow-storms last night and to-day. At Graham Ont., on the Grand Trunk Pacific, nine inches of snow fell during the night. Cars of incoming freight trains are covered with snow. The weather is very cold here, and the mercury dropped to freezing point this morning.

DIVIDING THE RESPONSIBILITY.

(Punch)

Mother—Did you remember to pray for everybody, dear?

Daughter—Well, Mummy, I prayed for you, but Jack prayed for daddy. He's looking after him just now.

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SHORTAGE OF LAKE SAILORS.

Duluth, Minn., Report.—According to reports made to-day to the Federal customs house by Great Lakes vessel captains, the demand for labor ashore with higher wages, is causing serious shortages in crews. A number of vessels were held here to-day unable to secure full crews, as provided by the new Seaman's Act.

UNUSUAL.

(Detroit Free Press)

"Had a queer day yesterday."

"What was the matter?"

"Wasn't either asked to buy or sell a lot."