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WEATHER—SHOWERY

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CANADIANS SUCCESSFUL AT FRESNOY; HUNS FIGHT HARD TO HOLD VILLAGE

GERMANY TO OFFER PEACE ONCE AGAIN

Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg Will Speak in Reichstag Monday.

RUSSIANS ASK FOR USE OF THE DARDANELLES

Turks Want to Save Constantinople and Ottoman Empire.

London, May 9.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Amsterdam says it has been confirmed that Germany is about to make another peace offer in conjunction with her allies.

Chancellor Speaks Monday. Copenhagen, via London, May 9.—A special despatch received here from Berlin says Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor, will answer a peace interpellation in the Reichstag Monday.

The despatch adds that the Reichstag will adjourn in the middle of May, but not till autumn, as is customary. Parliamentary objections to leaving the government uncontrolled from the May adjournment until autumn have resulted in plans for a short summer session in July.

Want Use of Dardanelles.

Petrograd, May 9.—According to official information received in London a number of Turkish agents are at work in Switzerland with the object of assuring the continued existence of Turkey. Provided the Turks are not driven out of Constantinople, it is understood, a willingness is expressed by the Turks to allow complete freedom of the Dardanelles to all comers.

Turkish Distress Signal. London, May 9.—According to official information received in London a number of Turkish agents are at work in Switzerland with the object of assuring the continued existence of Turkey. Provided the Turks are not driven out of Constantinople, it is understood, a willingness is expressed by the Turks to allow complete freedom of the Dardanelles to all comers.

LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE AT 3 TODAY

New Classification of Seats—Hon. Mr. Burchill Likely Speaker—Hon. Mr. Veniot After Joy Riders.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, May 9.—When the House of Assembly meets this afternoon at three o'clock, the government supporters will take seats at the speaker's right and the members of the opposition at the left, a classification not made in many years.

All nine members of the government will have seats in the front row. It is expected that Hon. J. P. Burchill of Northumberland will be elected speaker. The government whips will be Fred Marce, of Westmorland, and A. T. LeBlanc, of Restigouche.

Hon. P. J. Veniot has decided that the regulation forbidding the driving fast of vehicles on highway bridges must be observed, and has taken the first steps to ensure that observation. Acting on his complaint policemen from Fredericton stopped drivers on the Fredericton-St. Mary's bridge last night, and reported them for breaking the law by running their horses. Police court cases are expected to follow. Similar action is to be taken in other sections where the law has been more honored in the breach than in the observance.

W. K. Reek, secretary of agriculture, announced today that one car of seed wheat is expected to arrive on Monday. The distribution will be made as soon as possible. The provincial committee, appointed at the increased production conference in this city, on Friday, is to meet here tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. An executive is to be selected which will act with the department of agriculture. The meeting is to be held in the parliament building.

GERMANS YIELDING SLOWLY BEFORE ONSLAUGHT OF THE GALLANT CANADIAN TROOPS

Sanguinary Battle for Possession of Village of Fresnoy Continues Apparently Without Abatement—Huns Desperate.

BAVARIAN ARMY OF PRINCE RUPPRECHT MEETS REVERSE

Germans Expelled from Greater Portion of Village—Teutons Fear Break in Entire Line to the North.

The sanguinary battle between the British and Germans for possession of the village of Fresnoy goes on apparently without abatement. It is a battle of desperation on the part of the Germans who see in the loss of the village a double menace—the placing in jeopardy of their entire line north, and especially the town of Lens and its adjacent coal fields, and a deeply projecting salient into their lines which would virtually put the British at the threshold of Cambrai.

Canadian Onslaught.

The exact situation in the little village, which was recaptured by the Germans Tuesday after a stubborn defence of the Canadians, is in some what obscure. The British war office asserts that Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria's men met with reverses west of the village Tuesday night during a counter-attack, while unofficial advice is to the effect that they have been expelled from a greater portion of the village, but are still holding out although barely able to maintain themselves against the stubborn onslaught of the Canadians.

On the other hand the German official communication asserts the Germans have held the village against fresh British attacks and in addition have taken 100 prisoners. In making this claim, however, the usual claims of a victory, and claims of sanguinary losses inflicted are lacking in the statement of the German war office.

Unfavorable Weather.

Wednesday saw a return of unfavorable weather along the Anglo-German front, and except around Fresnoy the fighting was mainly by means of the artillery. In the meantime the French have been busy consolidating the positions captured from the Germans in Tuesday's fighting near Chevreux, repulsing counter-attacks and engaging in artillery duels with the Germans. Northwest of Rheims, in the single trench where the infantry left the trenches, the French attacked and captured German positions on a front of more than 400 yards and brought back 100 prisoners.

(Continued on page 2)

CLOSING EXERCISES AT KING'S COLLEGE

Degrees Will be Conferred Today on Dean Neales and Rev. Mr. Maxwell.

Special to The Standard. Windsor, N. S., May 9.—There was a large attendance at the annual meeting of the Alumni of King's College which was held in the convocation hall of the college here this morning. The meeting opened at 2.50. Reports of last year's work were received from the different officers and showed the Alumni in a flourishing condition.

In the afternoon in the convocation hall a meeting of the board of governors was held. The Opera House in the evening was crowded to witness the students' play under the auspices of the King's College Dramatic Club. Edgell turned out on mass. The different characters acted their respective parts in good style and elicited many favorable comments. Tomorrow the conferring of degrees will take place. Among the students to receive degrees are several St. John boys, including Arthur Lindsay Dykeman, William Scott, William John Shea, D. A. John Allan LeBlanc, B. A. Thomas Kevin Swensen, J. Wilfred Tait, Harold Cyril Ramsey.

Honorary degrees will be conferred on Very Rev. Dean Neales and Rev. M. Paul Maxwell. The former will receive the degree of D. D., and Rev. Mr. Maxwell, M. A.

SCOURGE OF SEAS IS NOT SO SERIOUS

Twenty-four British Vessels of More than 1,600 Tons Sunk.

THIRTY-EIGHT SMALLER SENT TO BOTTOM

Twenty-two Men Lost When Mine Sweeper Submerged.

London, May 9.—Twenty-four British merchant vessels, of more than 1,600 tons each, were sunk during the last week, it is announced officially. Twenty-two vessels of less than 1,600 tons, and 16 fishing vessels also were sunk.

The admiralty announces the sinking of a British mine-sweeper by a torpedo on May 5, with the loss of two officers and twenty men.

A falling off in the losses of British shipping is shown in this report. Last week's statement gave the number of losses of more than 1,600 tons as 38, under 1,600 tons as 13, and fishing vessels as 8.

Official Statement.

The official statement says: "Vessels of all nationalities, arrivals, 2,374 sailings, 2,499. "British merchantmen over 1,600 tons sunk, including five not reported previously, 24; under 1,600 tons, 22. "British merchantment unsuccessfully attacked, including six previously not reported 34. "British fishers sunk, including one not previously reported and thirteen sailers, 16."

Norwegian Sunk.

London, May 9.—The Norwegian steamer Kapanika, (1,235 tons gross), was sunk by a German submarine, the Norwegian foreign office announces, says a special news despatch from Christiania today. Two men of the crew were killed.

TEUTONS CHECKED

London, May 9.—The official communication issued by the British war office this evening says: "There was local fighting during the day in the neighborhood of Bullecourt, in the course of which a party of the enemy while attempting to advance to the attack across the open was caught by our machine gun fire and suffered heavy losses."

"There has been considerable activity on both sides at intervals during the day northwest of St. Quentin and in the neighborhood of Bullecourt, Wancourt and Arleux."

GREAT FRENCHMEN WELCOMED TO N. Y.

New York, May 9.—New York surrendered unconditionally to Joseph Jacques Joffre, Marshal of France, and the French war commission this afternoon. Not only did the new world's largest city capitulate to the hero of the Marne and to Rene Viviani, former Premier of France, who headed the war mission to the United States, but it accorded them a triumphant entry.

Quebec, May 9.—The military court enquiry appointed by the military department to investigate charges in the "Orange Sentinel" of Ontario, to the effect that returning Canadian soldiers were ill-treated in Quebec concluded this afternoon and left tonight for Riviere Du Loup to enquire into a charge that a troop train was stopped by residents of that parish.

Some of the members of the commission when spoken to tonight stated that neither the Rev. Mr. Perry nor Mr. J. P. Burstell in their evidence this morning made derogatory statements about French-Canadians of this city attributed to them by local French newspapers, in today's editions.

The gist of their evidence was merely that French-Canadians were more or less indifferent, but not hostile to the returning soldiers.

PARLIAMENT OF THE ALLIED NATIONS WILL ATTEMPT TO PREVENT ALL WAR

May Be Permanent Union of Free Nations After Present Struggle to Insure Peace and Prosperity of Whole World.

HIGHLY ENCOURAGING RESULTS OF PARIS WAR CONFERENCE

Future Conduct of War Depends Largely on United States—Next Council at Petrograd Possibly.

Paris, May 9.—The results obtained at the recent war council held in Paris were highly satisfactory on all points, according to Jules Cambon, general secretary to the ministry of foreign affairs. This conference was attended by Premier Lloyd George, Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and Major-Gen. Sir William R. Robertson, representing Great Britain; Rear-Admiral William S. Sims, representing the United States, and other military and naval leaders.

Depends on America.

"More and more it is becoming evident that the future conduct of the war is going to depend upon America, the moral, material, military and naval forces of which constitute factors of the very highest importance," said M. Cambon today. "Owing to conditions in Russia activity upon the eastern front may be somewhat slackened by reason of Russia's inner problems, but the action of America gives us advantages offsetting what we might risk losing on the eastern side. It indicates the growing role that President Wilson and America are called upon to play in the final solution."

Referring to the recent congress of the Allied nations in Paris, M. Cambon said: "It is an illustration of what President Wilson called an association of free and democratic nations against autocracy."

May Present All War.

"M. Ribot suggested that the next meeting of the inter-Allied parliament should be held at Petrograd. This would be significant, because thus the latest centre of democratic action would be the seat of a parliament representing the Allied nations. The parliament of the Allies is destined later to play an important role in international affairs. Heretofore arbitration has been accepted as the chief means for reconciling international difficulties, and the arbitration court will, in time, formulate a means for averting conflicts, and thus avoid the necessity of having to resort to arbitration."

"In time the existence of the inter-Allied parliament may become the means of preventing international conflicts and may constitute a permanent union of free nations."

HOTELS IN AROOSTOOK TO RAISE RATES JUNE 1

High Cost of Supplies Given as Reason by Managers of Larger Houses.

Woodstock, May 9.—The owners of the larger hotels in Aroostook Co. have decided to advance the price of transient from \$2.50 to \$3 a day as at present to \$3 and \$3.50 a day. The new prices will be effective June 1. The high cost of supplies is given as the cause.

Dealing with the financial consequences of the entry of the United States into the war the chancellor said the Germans had shown resourcefulness in organizing, but they had made many mistakes, their principal one being their misunderstanding of human nature. Despite the success which had attended the submarine warfare—and it might be possible this country would have to display great staying powers—he had no doubt that the Germans, on the balance, had lost enormously by adding one of the greatest nations of the world to their enemies.

COALITION IN RUSSIA

Petrograd, May 9, via London.—The Russian government today issued a declaration in favor of a coalition ministry.

NEWSPAPERS RAISE PRICE. Chicago, May 9.—The Chicago newspapers announce an advance of from one cent to two cents each. The high cost of paper is given as the reason.

GOVERNMENT IS NOT TO CANCEL THE SCOTT ACT

Inadvisable to Interfere with Law Made by People.

PROHIBITION INEFFECTIVE IN EIGHT N. B. COUNTIES

Committee of Commons will Endeavor to Reduce Expense at Ottawa.

Ottawa, May 9.—A committee of the house of commons is to be appointed to consider means of reducing the cost of session of parliament. In the house tonight Sir George Foster as acting premier accepted a resolution moved by W. B. Northrup, Conservative, of East Hastings urging that, in view of the pressing need for national economy, a committee of nine members of the house be appointed, five to be named by the acting leader of the government and four by the leader of the opposition to consider and report upon the total cost of parliamentary sessions and the best way of reducing that cost.

Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Liberal, Rouville, supported the resolution, provided it was not the intention to eliminate the translations of speeches into French.

Sir George Foster in accepting the resolution agreed that considerable economies might be effected.

Several Questions.

Before the house adjourned several questions were put to the government. Hon. Mr. Lemieux was informed that the government would consider a suggestion that postal rates be reduced on parcels addressed to men on overseas service.

E. M. MacDonald, Liberal, of Pictou, was told that information would be secured as to the proposal made in the committee of ways and means to the United States congress in regard to an extra duty for war purposes and its effect upon free wheat.

F. B. Carvell, Liberal of Carleton (N. B.), suggested that the government bring in legislation repealing the Canada Temperance Act in the eight counties of New Brunswick where it was in force and interfering with provincial prohibition. Sir Geo. Foster pointed out the doubtful wisdom of interfering with a law that was in effect by the vote of the people. The people themselves are chief vote for the repeal of the act.

CASUALTIES

Ottawa, May 9.—Tonight's casualty list of 236 names brings the total reported among the Canadians since the capture of Vimy Ridge to 16,301.

Killed in Action.

H. Doyle, Amherst, N. S.
J. A. Milligan, Dorchester, N. B.
Died of Wounds—
W. H. Jackson, Kentville, N. S.
Missing—
G. W. Lloyd, Bath, N. B.
Captain A. S. Allen, Yarmouth, N. S.
Reported Missing now with Unit—
P. M. Murray, Amherst, N. S.
Wounded—
Corporal C. W. S. Bentley, Charlotte town, P. E. I.
Lance Corporal C. S. Cooke, New Glasgow, N. S.
Reported Missing Rejoined Unit—
T. H. Menzie, Dalhousie, N. B.
Killed in Action—
Corporal V. L. Beazley, Halifax.
Died of Wounds—
L. R. Kelly, Fredericton, N. B.
C. S. Beaton, Brookfield, P. E. I.
E. E. Stoddard, Halifax.
E. Crowell, Shelburne, N. S.
R. Walker, Williamsdale, N. S.
A. G. Atkinson, Lewisville, N. S.
F. W. Milner, West Sackville, N. B.
Wounded—
E. B. Hicks, Sackville, N. B.
A. R. Noyes, James River, N. S.
G. C. Baker, Yarmouth, N. S.
Lance Corporal E. Webb, Halifax.
F. S. Himmelman, Lunenburg, N. S.
J. W. Horne, Pleasantville, N. S.
J. H. Dean, Sheet Harbor, N. S.
D. McDonald, Rice Point, P. E. I.
Engineers.
Wounded—
Corporal T. G. Torris, Springhill, N. S.
Infantry.
Missing—
C. J. Twanney, Halifax.
Artillery.
Wounded—
Bomb. H. C. McInerney, Richibucto, N. B.
Died—
W. A. Bell, Teeganuque, N. B.
Heavily Wounded.
Died of Wounds—
O. A. Harte, Grand Falls, N. B.