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The Toronto World

TUESDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 6 1917 - FOURTEEN PAGES

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GERMANY EXPECTS THE U.S. TO DECLARE WAR

BRITISH TROOPS ON SOMME RIVER CAPTURE POSITION NEAR GUEUDECOURT Murder of American Sailor Draws U.S. Nearer to War

GERMANS LOOK FOR WAR WITH UNITED STATES

Believe Open Declaration to Be Matter of Brief Time.

MINIMIZES BREACH

Berlin Press Says Lack of Army Makes Her Negligible.

Berlin, Feb. 5. (The Toronto World.)—The morning newspapers treat the breach in diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany as a matter of great gravity, but all the editorials are pitched in a calm and moderate tone. Most of the newspapers say the news created no surprise, some of them explaining that this step was expected in view of President Wilson's message of last April, and others that it was anticipated in view of the president's continual siding with the entente since the war began. All the newspapers strongly reject the imputation that Germany has broken her promise made in her note of May 4, having stress upon the fact that Germany's promise was expressed on condition of President Wilson's success in bringing England to an observance of the laws of nations. They generally assert that President Wilson persists in ignoring Germany's justification for her submarine policy, as outlined in her various notes.

MAKE NO CONCESSIONS AT EXPENSE OF PIRACY

Berlin in Offering Sop to Neutrals Makes This Point Clear.

London, Feb. 5. (British Admiralty, per wireless press).—The following despatch was received here today from a German government wireless station: "Negotiations are now in course of progress in regard to the question how far additional concessions on the part of Germany are possible, in consideration of certain pressing economic requirements of some neutral states, without prejudicing the purposes aimed at by unlimited U-boat warfare."

U. S. MAY TAKE OVER SHIPBUILDING PLANTS

Steps Under Consideration for Complete Warships Under Construction.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Following a conference today with Attorney-General Gregory, Representative Pagett, chairman of the house naval committee, has begun negotiations for an amendment to the naval appropriation bill providing for the taking over of shipbuilding plants to complete naval vessels, in the event of war. Mr. Gregory said that the president has ample authority to enforce such action, and the amendment will be incorporated into the naval bill, which is expected to pass the senate the latter part of this week.

U. S. and Austria-Hungary Still Maintain Relations

Vienna, Feb. 5. (The Toronto World.)—After the receipt of news of the breaking of diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany on Sunday, Francis C. Penfold, the American ambassador, had a long conference with the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Count Czernin, after which it was announced that the relations between the United States and Austria-Hungary were not yet affected.

HOLLAND ANGRY OVER BITTERNESS GERMAN PIRACY

Germany Called on to Explain Shelling and Sinking of Gamma.

BERLIN MAKES DENIAL

Warning Said to Have Been Given Before Attack on Steamer.

London, Feb. 5.—A despatch to Reuters from The Hague, says: "The foreign office has learned that the Dutch steamer Gamma was first shelled and then sunk by bombs. The foreign minister immediately asked an explanation from the German government."

State Department Discourages Party's Return by Way of Cuba.

Washington, Feb. 5.—The departure of Count Von Bernstorff and the embassy staff may be delayed for some time, it became known tonight. The embassy party is now awaiting the arrival of the consular officials of Germany, accredited to the United States so that the matter of the break of relations between the American and German governments we learn certainly without glee, but still less with sorrow and pain.

PRISONERS OF WAR VICTIMS OF "BREAK"

Baron Newton Regrets Termination of Invaluable Work of U. S.

London, Feb. 5.—Baron Newton, under-secretary for foreign affairs, in an interview regarding the rupture between the United States and Germany, said that inasmuch as it deprived Great Britain of America's invaluable work in behalf of the British war prisoners it was little short of a calamity.

BERNSTORFF'S GOING MAY BE DEFERRED

Washington is Awaiting Arrival of German Consular Officials.

ROUTE IS NOT FIXED

State Department Discourages Party's Return by Way of Cuba.

DUTCH COMMENT ON BREAK.

Amsterdam, Feb. 5.—The Koelische Volkszeitung, commenting upon the break of relations between the governments of Germany and the United States, says, editorially: "The news of the rupture in diplomatic relations between the American and German governments we learn certainly without glee, but still less with sorrow and pain."

HUNS SHELL LIFEBOATS AMERICAN AMONG DEAD

British Steamer Evestone Attacked Without Warning, and Captain and Three Seamen Including Baltimore Sailor, Are Killed After Taking to Boats—U.S. Faces Possibility of Being Forced to Declare War Almost Immediately.

Special Cable to The Toronto World. London, Feb. 5.—At least one American is numbered among the victims of the latest "ruthless" act of the German submarines. This man, Richard Wallace, of Baltimore, Md., was an able seaman aboard the steamer Evestone, sunk today under the most brutal circumstances created by the German method of sea warfare since the sinking of the Lusitania.

Without warning, it is alleged, the U-boat suddenly opened fire on the unarmed merchantman, sending shot after shot crashing into the ship's hull. The officers of the Evestone, seeing that the German's were determined to send the ship to the bottom with all on board, took to the small boats with a few survivors, a shower of shells from the four-inch gun, mounted on a disappearing carriage on the submersible.

Excitement at Washington. Washington, Feb. 5.—The state department tonight was in a state of excitement when the report was handed to them that an American seaman was killed today while in a small boat, leaving the sinking British

STRONG APPEAL MADE FOR NATIONAL ARSENAL

W. F. Maclean, M. P., Moves Resolution That No More Rifles Be Purchased From Ross Factory—Hughes Makes Bitter Attack on Lee-Enfields.

By a Staff Reporter. Ottawa, Tuesday, Feb. 6.—The longest sitting of the session was held last night with the Ross rifle as the subject of debate. The discussion arose from a resolution in committee of the whole upon the resolution authorizing a war credit of \$500,000,000, and Mr. Maclean (South York) offered an amendment that none of the money to be appropriated should be applied to the purchase of Ross rifles. He declared that our rifles should be manufactured in a national arsenal, under the direction of the government, and objected to the expenditure of \$2,000,000 in the purchase of 80,000 Ross rifles, when the 800,000 already in hand, none of which are allowed to be used at the front.

BRITISH SEIZE POSITION NEAR GUEUDECOURT

Capture Trench in Night Operations, Enter German Lines at Three Points on Somme, Beat Enemy Near Beaucourt.

Special Cable to The Toronto World. London, Feb. 5.—As a result of further local offensive action on the front of the Somme, the British troops captured 500 yards of German trench on the higher ground northeast of Gueudecourt, and they also beat off two counter-attacks here and four counter-attacks northwest of Beaucourt, during the past 24 hours the enemy made four unsuccessful counter-attacks against our new front east of Beaucourt. Our positions there have been consolidated. A further 38 prisoners, including one officer, were captured by us as a result of our raids and these counter-attacks.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Harold Howson, 365 Glenlake avenue, a salesman, was arrested last night by Acting Detective Wickett, on a charge of forgery. The charge was preferred by a Mrs. Steele.

HURSTWOOD TORPEDOED FIVE OF CREW KILLED

Fatal Explosion Follows Attack Without Warning on British Steamer—Belgian Relief Ship Sunk by Mine or Torpedo.

London, Feb. 5.—The British steamer Hurstwood, 1229 tons, was torpedoed without warning at noon today. Three men were killed by the explosion and three seriously injured, two of whom died after the crew was landed.

The Belgian relief steamer Lars Kruse, of 1460 tons, and under Danish register, was sunk by a torpedo or a mine near the Belgian coast today. The vessel carried a cargo of wheat from Buenos Aires.

WAR SUMMARY THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

THE British official communication from the front last night announced that in a local operation the British captured 500 yards of trenches from the Germans in the section northeast of Gueudecourt, north of the Somme. Before consolidating their ground they had to repel two German counter-attacks. In this small action they made 70 prisoners and captured a machine gun. Simultaneously with this little advance, other troops entered the German lines at three points, near Bouchavesnes, Pys and Grandecourt. Before the new British front east of Beaucourt a heavy action proceeded yesterday. It was in this region that the British, advanced 500 yards on a front of three-quarters of a mile on Saturday night, but it was not until yesterday that the Germans succeeded in organizing their counter-attacks. They made four onsets against the new British ground, but each of these failed to get on, and the British made some successful raids of their own, taking 38 prisoners, in addition to the 100 taken at this point when they made their advance.

Many persons see in this renewed action the probable renewal of the battle of the Somme. That engagement has had the form of local British offensives and a series of partial German defeats. Where the British lines stand now, they have before them some strong positions on higher ground and they are reducing these positions as a preliminary measure to the striking of more strident blows. Preparations thus proceed apace for the breaking of German power on land before submarines do much further damage on the sea. The policy of the allies, it is said, now calls for the hastening of the war's end by heavy offensive action on all fronts. General Siralls has been passing a week with General Cadorna on the Italian front in order to make the plans of Italy harmonize and dovetail into the plans of the British, French and Russians.

Washington officials said the other day that altho the United States had broken diplomatic relations with Germany, they would not declare war on her until she had committed some overt act. Now she has committed it for a British official communication on the sinking of the steamer Evestone says that William Wallace of Baltimore, an able seaman and American citizen, died instantly from a shell fired by a German submarine.

GERMANS AT KINGSTON TRY TO DIG TO FREEDOM

Captain Finds Extensive Hole Beneath Sleeping Room at Fort Henry.

Special to The Toronto World. Kingston, Feb. 5.—Capt. W. Kirkwood of the Fort Henry garrison, in operations staff discovered that the Germans who were quartered in sleeping room No. 13B on the lower floor of the fort were well on the way to having a tunnel dug that would release every prisoner at the fort. They succeeded in making quite an extensive hole in the ground. Major E. Dade, commanding officer, had the prisoners transferred to another sleeping room. Some trouble was experienced with the tunnels when the men were being forced to leave, but no one was injured.

Macaulay is Taken East To Answer Charges Made

St. Louis, Feb. 5.—Alexander E. Macaulay of Toronto, who is wanted by New York authorities to answer a charge of having passed worthless checks and for whom extradition papers were issued by Governor Gardner, started east tonight in custody of two detectives. He also is under \$10,000 bond here on a charge of cashing bad checks. Macaulay maintained he was a victim of mistaken identity and insisted he would disprove the charges against him.

Would Ban Race Meets For Duration of War

Ottawa, Feb. 5.—W. E. Knowles, of Moose Jaw, has given notice of a resolution which he will move in the house to provide "that no race meeting shall be held anywhere in Canada during the present war."

Foe Fights No Big Engagements In Any Theatre of Campaign

Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 5.—The war office communication issued tonight says: "Reports received from all fronts show that no large engagements have taken place."

GERARD ASKS PASSPORTS.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 5.—Ambassador Gerard called upon Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, the German foreign minister, at one o'clock this afternoon to ask for his passports.

HOUSE OF COMMONS ADJOURNS TOMORROW

Date for Reassembling is Set for Nineteenth of April.

By a Staff Reporter. Ottawa, Feb. 5.—Parliament will adjourn on Wednesday until April 19 next. This is to enable the prime minister to attend the imperial war conference in London. The premier's formal resolution for the adjournment was amongst the official notices of this evening.

Four Burned to Death In Newfoundland Train

Curling, Nfld., Feb. 5.—Four persons were burned to death and three others were injured in a fire which followed an accident to a passenger train on the Reid Newfoundland Railway, near Glenora. The dead are Mr. and Mrs. Moses Rodway, Joseph Watts and Phillip Housell.

DINEEN'S STOCKTAKING SALE.

Reductions of 25 to 50 per cent. apply on all Dineen's regular stock offers during the February Stocktaking Sale. The original prices were extremely reasonable for high-class furs, so that the reductions really mean exceptional bargains. Men's fur-lined and coon skin coats are on the schedule of reductions. W. & D. Dineen Company, Limited, 140 Yonge street, Toronto. In Hamilton, 20 and 22 King street west.

Conference of Neutrals.

There are intimations of thoughts of a conference of neutrals to reach an agreement on what neutrals may ask when the time comes. It is known that this suggestion is being pressed by at least one of the European neutrals which has been among the chief sufferers from the war, and it is believed that President Wilson is regarded with favor. It is recalled, however, that the idea is still in nebulous form.

Special to The Toronto World.

Newport News, Va., Feb. 5.—The freight steamer "Evestone" cleared here two weeks ago for Liverpool with miscellaneous cargo.

Proposes Vote of Censure Regarding the Ross Rifle

Ottawa, Feb. 5.—Hon. Charles Murphy has given notice of a resolution that the government is "deserving of censure" for its conduct in connection with the Ross rifle, "as well as for the prolonged delay in providing a substitute for the Ross rifle."

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