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VOL. XXXVI.—No. 12,963

RUSSIANS CAPTURE KASR-I-SHIRIN, NORTHEAST OF BAGDAD

LAURIER CALLS ON ONTARIO TO GRANT BILINGUAL "RIGHTS"

Toronto City Council Refuses to Pay Provincial War Tax

ONTARIO UNFAIR TO MINORITY FULL RIGHT TO BE TURNED ON

CITY WILL NOT PAY WAR TAX UNTIL COURTS GIVE A RULING

In Reply to Borden's Accusation of Inconsistency Liberal Leader Asserts He is Opposed to Coercion of Provinces—Casgrain Opposes Resolution.

By a Staff Reporter.
OTTAWA, Ont., May 10.—The house of commons devoted its entire sitting today to the bilingual debate, which will continue over tomorrow at least. As soon as the house was moved into supply this afternoon, Mr. Lapointe, the Liberal member for Kamouraska, again offered his resolution and Mr. Speaker Serigny ruled that the same was in order, but Mr. Northrup appealed from the decision of the chair. Upon division the chair was sustained, yeas 124, nays 9.

Those voting in the negative were Messrs. Northrup, Oliver, Knowles, Thomson (Qu'Appelle), Clark (Red Deer), Cruise, MacNutt, Douglas and Buchanan, all except Mr. Northrup being Liberals.

New Division Shows.
The tone of the debate tonight was moderate. Mr. Lapointe, who opened the discussion, disclaimed any intention of over-riding provincial rights, and Mr. Devlin (Wright), who seconded the Lapointe resolution, argued that the Province of Ontario so long as it permitted its people to speak French should not object to their learning to speak it correctly.

Mr. Robert Borden took the position that the house of commons had no jurisdiction of the subject matter of the resolution, and while this discussion could do no good, it might do a great deal of harm. He thought it significant that while Liberal members complained of the legislation of Ontario, they had nothing to say about the far more drastic legislation of Manitoba, and in this connection he quoted from the speeches of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1896 protesting against federal interference with provincial control over education.

Mr. Wilfrid Laurier said that he had been called upon by the Orange Senators to tell French-Canadians that they had no rights in Ontario, and that instead of agitating about the school question, they should be enlisting for service at the front. He certainly would tell French-Canadians that they had no rights in Ontario, but he would tell them that they had no rights in the French-Canadian minority. Ontario should model her policy upon the policy in England, which had been one of tolerance.

(Continued on page 2, Col. 5.)

British Guns Heavily Bombard Positions of Foe in Flanders

Much Mining Activity Continues in Artois—British Army Takes Over Additional Miles of Front From French.

LONDON, May 10, 11.15 p.m.—The British official statement on the campaign in the western zone, issued tonight, reads: "There has been some mining activity about Encremont, Souchez, Hulluch and Culinchy, but no change has taken place in the situation at these points. "The artillery on both sides has been active about Maricourt, Souchez and St. Eloi. Our artillery bombarded enemy positions at La Solle and southward of Messines. "British troops are now holding 90 miles of the western front, it was announced today. "The British lines extend from a point north of Ypres to a point near the Somme."

FRENCH TAKE TRENCH WEST OF MORT HOMME

Two Machine Guns and Sixty-Two Germans Captured.

ENEMY ATTACK BEATEN

Germans Again Fail to Carry Hill West of Meuse.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, May 10.—The French captured parts of a German trench on the slopes west of Le Mort Homme in a small offensive action today. They took 62 prisoners and captured two machine guns. They also defeated powerful German attacks on their positions in the neighborhood of Hill 287, which the Germans have found to be a barrier against the capture of Hill 304. After the complete repulse of this assault, some Germans were found to remain prisoners in the hands of the French.

Notable diminution of the bombardment west of the Meuse was reported to in the French official communiqué this afternoon. East of the Meuse the bombardment was intermittent. Hand grenade skirmishes were reported during the night in the regions of Avocourt Wood and Fort Donau. In Alsace a German reconnoitering party was repulsed in an attempt to seize a French post at Hirzbach, south of Altkirch.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

IN the fighting before Verdun yesterday the French, in a small offensive, cleared the Germans out of some parts of a trench west of the Mort Homme position. In this smart action they took 62 Germans prisoner and captured two machine guns. West of Hill 304 the Germans tried to carry Hill 287 by a strong attack and they were again thoroughly beaten. The attacks were launched with heavy effectives and in the struggle the French took some prisoners.

It has been said in this summary that the Germans must shorten their lines in the calculable future if they wish to secure reinforcements for their central reserve of 50 divisions, which they employ on offensives. It may well be that the German high command feels the imperative need of securing more men to send to the help of tottering Turkey, and the consequent need of securing shorter lines immediately, so as to release these extra men from the trenches. Before retreating, the Germans quite naturally have endeavored to secure a decision in France by breaking the French front. But the question remains to be decided, why do the Germans not cut their losses by attacking the French at some easier point than Verdun, the strongest sector in the French battle line? Why do they continue their mad dance of death before Mort Homme and Hill 304 and the Loimont ridge? Why does the great general staff, acting as it considers in the best interests of Germany, choose to continue a battle which seems to be hopeless?

An apparent inkling of the solution is given in a German official statement that the French had brought 51 divisions into action on this front, and a statement by Major Morant in the German press, that the Germans are now opposed by two to one at Verdun. About one man to three is sufficient to put up an adequate defence. The solution of the puzzle must lie in the proposition that the German general staff has reason to believe that the French are preparing to salient to the French, and its corresponding military danger to the Germans, lies in the fact that a short French advance from Verdun would cut off the Germans in western France from their communications with Metz, and would endanger and perhaps also cut off their communication with Luxembourg. So the renewal of the German

(Continued on Page 4, Columns 1 and 2)

DR. HARRIS NOT AWARE OF ANY KIND OF GRAFT

International Fuse Company Secured Contract by Hard Work Only.

FORCED TO GO TO U. S.

Shell Committee Reluctant—Harris Knew Allison Merely Casually.

By a Staff Reporter.
OTTAWA, May 10.—After the somewhat startling evidence placed before the royal commission on Tuesday, today's hearing proved rather tame in comparison. Dr. John A. Harris, partner with R. L. Patterson in the International Arms and Fuse Co., occupied the stand the whole afternoon, and his story was little different from what Mr. Patterson told on Monday last.

Mr. Hellmuth put the same list of questions as to the International offering commissions to secure contracts that he put to Mr. Patterson, and the witness in turn denied all allegations of corruption, commissions or rackets. In so far as the International's dealings were concerned, he declared commissions were neither offered by the company nor sought by any person else.

Regarding the Canadian manufacture of fuses, witness declared that the shell committee was very anxious right up to the end of April to have fuses made in Canada, and it was only after it had been convinced that there were no leading facilities in Canada or fuse experts in that country that the Canadian industry could not turn out the fuses. Witness said he was hopeful of having them made in Canada.

(Continued on page 5, Col. 1.)

FREE HAND WAS GIVEN MAXWELL

Government Makes Public Instructions on Which He Acted in Ireland.

TOOK RESPONSIBILITY

But Sir John Kept War Office in Touch With His Course.

LONDON, May 10, 8.40 p.m.—The government made public tonight the instructions given to Major-General Sir John Maxwell on his assuming command in Ireland.

These instructions allowed him a free hand in suppressing the rising, and in the movement of troops under his command, and "also in regard to such measures as may seem to him advisable under the present situation." It is known that American officials here are making only the usual enquiries.

THE DAILY CALENDAR.

May 11, 1870: The territories of the Hudson Bay Company transferred to the government of the Dominion of Canada, in consideration of a payment of \$1,500,000.

Dineen's Hat Values.
It is not worth while to make a cheap hat for men. A man's hat is a small item of expense, and the only bargain is to buy a hat of superior quality at the average run of prices. Every hat at Dineen's represents the product of a reputable hatter. A Dineen \$2 hat is a great bargain. Dineen's, 140 Yonge Street.

DR. UGLOW APPOINTED.
KINGSTON, May 10.—Dr. W. L. Uglow, son of R. Uglow, and a graduate of Queen's University, has been appointed geologist of a large mining corporation in Peru. He will go south in a few weeks.

IRISH AFFAIRS

Resignation of Baron Wimborne Has Not Closed the Chapter.

IRISH CONDEMN RISING

Manifesto Issued by Parliamentary Party Makes Solemn Appeal.

LONDON, May 10, 10.15 p.m.—Ireland provided a number of sensations today. The first was the announcement of the resignation of Lord Wimborne, lord lieutenant.

The second was the appointment of a commission, headed by Lord Hardinge, to investigate the cause of the Irish outbreak. A third was the admission by the government of the truth of the report that F. Sheehy Skeffington, editor of The Irish Citizen, and two other journalists, had been executed in the Portlough Barracks in Dublin without the knowledge of the military authorities, and before martial law was actually in operation.

A fourth was the granting of the veteran Dillon's demand for a special session of the house of commons to discuss the executions in Ireland, and, finally, the issue of an important manifesto to the Irish people by John Redmond, strongly denouncing the rebellion, and appealing to stand fast by constitutional means to secure self-government.

Skeffington's Execution.
Of these important events, by far the most sensational was the revelation concerning Skeffington, which formed the climax of the fast-growing resentment of the Irish people at the continuance of executions in Dublin, which has already given the government pause and induced Premier Asquith to give an undertaking that there will be no more executions pending the promised parliamentary discussion.

Thus far the military authorities have dealt with 79 prisoners, of whom 15 have already been executed. Five of the seven signatories of the proclamation of the Irish Republic have been sentenced to life imprisonment; 21 to 10 years and 42 to less than 10 years.

Premier Asquith announced in parliament today that the trials by court-martial had practically finished. He hoped that there would be no further need to proceed with extreme rigor. While there is considerable difference of opinion as to whether it is safe to revoke martial law in Ireland yet, many members of both houses

(Continued on page 2, Col. 4.)

GERMANY HAS "PUNISHED" DESTROYER OF SUSSEX

Admits Guilt and Offers to Pay Indemnity to Injured U.S. Citizens.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Germany, in a note received by the state department today from Ambassador Gerard, admits that a German submarine torpedoed the channel steamer Sussex in violation of assurances given the United States, expresses regret for the incident, announces that the submarine commander has been "appropriately punished," and declares readiness to pay an adequate indemnity to American citizens injured on the vessel.

The German statement that the offending commander had been punished will be accepted by the U. S., and the Sussex case considered closed, except for arranging for the payment of indemnities to the several U. S. citizens who were hurt.

STILL ANOTHER SUNK.

LONDON, May 10, 11.15 p.m.—The British steamer Dolosoth, 1700 tons, has been sunk, according to a report to Lloyd's.

RUSSIANS TAKE TOWN ON PERSIAN FRONTIER

Kasr-i-Shirin, Hundred and Ten Miles From Bagdad, Occupied.

MUCH BOOTY CAPTURED

Turkish Munition Reserves, Comprising Huge Stores of Cartridges, Secured.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, May 10.—The Town of Kasr-i-Shirin, 110 miles northeast of Bagdad and on the Mesopotamia-Persian frontier, has been captured by the Russians in their advance on the chief Mohammedan city of Turkey outside of Constantinople. In pursuing the defeated and retreating Turks the Russians captured three guns.

At Kasr-i-Shirin the Russians also captured Turkish munition reserves, comprising several hundred rounds of cartridges, a great quantity of shells and hand grenades, telegraph material and a camel supply convoy laden with biscuits and sugar.

In the Armenian theatre the Russians also stopped a Turkish offensive which had been conducted in the region of Mamashatan.

SHEFFINGTON BLAMED MILITARY FOR REVOLT

Said Pursuit of Prussian Plans in Ireland Would Provoke Explosion.

WIDOW NOT INFORMED

Asks Prevention of Further Tragedies in Ireland While Time Remains.

LONDON, May 10, 4.35 p.m.—The following letter, written by the widow of F. Sheehy Skeffington to a friend, was made public today:

"My husband was arrested on April 25, when returning home on the second day of the rising, was tried (charge unknown) and shot forthwith. He was unarmed and a non-combatant, being well known as an earnest pacifist, but also an Irish Nationalist. I would take it as the greatest favor to his memory if you could see that these facts are known at once in England, to prevent further tragedies while there is time. I have these facts from a most reliable source, but I have had as yet no official information and have not been allowed even to see my husband's remains, or take away his body for burial."

On April 7 Skeffington wrote a letter to The New Statesman, in which he said: "The situation in Ireland is extremely grave. Thanks for the silence of the daily press, the military authorities are pursuing their Prussian plans in Ireland unobserved by the British public, and when the explosion comes, they have provoked events which will endeavor to divide the British as to where the responsibility lies. I write in the hope that, despite the war fever, they may be enough sanity and common sense left to restrain the militarists while there is yet time."

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FRENCH FISHING CREW SUFFERED PRIVATIONS

Nine Men Turned Adrift in Boat Without Food by Submarine.

LIVERPOOL, May 10.—Nine members of the crew of the French fishing vessel Bernadotte were landed here today. They were six days in an open boat after the vessel was sunk by a submarine 160 miles from land, when bound for the Grand Bank off Newfoundland for fish.

The sailors declare that they had no time to supply themselves with food and water before taking to the boats, and that they suffered excruciatingly from hunger and thirst. One man drank salt water, became delirious, and jumped overboard.

All the men were in the last stages of exhaustion when they were picked up.

FOE TRANSPORT SUNK IN LOWER ADRIATIC

French Submarine Torpedoes Craft Laden With War Material.

PARIS, May 10.—(11.10 p.m.)—A French submarine sank an enemy transport laden with war material in the lower Adriatic Sea yesterday, says a Havas despatch from Rome.

WEST MICHIGAN SWEPT BY DISASTROUS STORM

Half Million Dollars' Damage Done to Property and Railway Tracks.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., May 10.—Northern and Western Michigan, early today were swept by the worst wind, rain and lightning storm in years. The property damage will total nearly \$500,000, according to reports received from various points today.

At Petoskey the streets were flooded by a cloudburst which followed the storm. Two miles west of Pere Marquette tracks were washed out for a distance of 100 feet, delaying traffic. From Mackinaw City to Clare poles and wires were reported down.

FOE'S DESTROYERS RAN TO HARBOR FOR SHELTER

LONDON, May 10.—A British official statement issued this evening quotes the German official claim that a British destroyer was badly damaged in a brief engagement between five British destroyers and two German torpedo boats on May 8. The British admiralty denies the German claim, saying that a few shots were exchanged between the torpedo craft, and that the Germans then returned to their harbor.

CZAR MAKES MOVE TO ASSIST BRITISH

Pushes Troops Southward From Mush to Capture Bagdad Railway.

TO RULE MESOPOTAMIA

Securing of Main Artery of Communication Will Cut off Turks.

PETROGRAD, May 10.—(10.10 p.m., via London.)—The British reverse at Kut-el-Amara, instead of causing the Russians to abandon or change their plans for invading Mesopotamia, appears rather to have inspired them with a fresh incentive for reaching one of the principal objectives of their Caucasian campaign.

Since General Townshend's capitulation, the Russians have made conspicuous progress along the difficult roads of the Persian mountain province which borders Mesopotamia.

The main threat upon Mesopotamian expedition, but in the converted Russian efforts to drive the Turks southward from their position in the direction of Diarbekir. This direction provides the shortest route to the Bagdad railway, the possession of which by the Russians would, it is generally agreed here, be equivalent to Turkish renunciation of Mesopotamia.

The Turkish attacks before Erzerum and are now following up their advantage in the direction of Diarbekir. The Russian attacks before Erzerum apparently have come to an end without a final and immediate resumption of the offensive by the Russian central armies is expected. According to all reports, the Russian army is assisting in the Turkish operations.

NEXT BRITISH MAIL.

The next British and foreign mail via England will close at the general postoffice at 6 a.m. Friday, May 13, and supplementary at 11.30 a.m. same date (letter and registered mail only).

On Motion of Mayor Church Council Decides to Apply for Decision Whether Ontario Government Has Power to Impose One Mill Tax.

The provincial war tax of \$582,021 levied on Toronto will not be paid to the government until the courts decide that it has a legal right to levy by direct taxation. This was decided by the city council at a quarter to twelve last night, after a most strenuous fight on the part of Mayor Church.

Like a bomb he dropped a motion on the council when it was considering the budget, that the provincial war tax of \$582,021 be struck out of the estimates and the council contest the right of the provincial government to levy it. He stated that the province had no right to place a direct tax upon the municipalities, and the time had come for the council to protect the rights of the city ratepayers.

Since confederation municipalities had never admitted the right of the province to directly tax them. The city was always having provincial inroads into its own funds. In no other state or province were the municipalities so taxed. He mentioned Australia and New Zealand where state grants were made the capital cities.

"Citizens," said his worship, "are taxed to death by the Dominion provincial and civil governments. This is an illegal tax, and should the city be taken to court I am sure the tax would be pronounced ultra vires and thrown out."

"This is more reactionary than the Dublin riots," said Ald. McBride. He maintained that the city must pay the tax, whether the case was taken to court or not. Last year the city "fell for it," and then if ever was the time to protest, now he hoped the council would vote the mayor's motion down.

Controller Foster said the mayor's motion was a pleasant surprise if the province had done an illegal act; the fact that the city had paid the tax year did not make it legal. He thought this tax should be contested. If it was legal, there was nothing to prevent the province increasing it to two or five mills next year.

Controller Cameron said the province leaned on Toronto, and in this example the amusement tax, which was paid largely by the ratepayers of Toronto. "If," said he, "we had a corporation counsel that was watching his job as closely as the mayor we would have contested this before."

"The mayor should get credit for having the nerve to protest this tax," said Ald. Ramsden. "Some times the mayor does strike it right, he did so in the Metropolitan case," he said. The city had done more than any other municipality in the Dominion and more than the province, and it should not have this tax imposed upon it. He was quite in sympathy with the mayor.

War was a federal affair, but the citizens were bled in three places. It

(Continued on page 2, Col. 7.)

GERMAN NOTE MERELY CONVEYED "EXPECTATIONS"

Lokal Anzeiger Says Wilson is Demolishing "Man of Straw."

BERLIN, May 10, via London, 4.55 p.m.—America's answer to the German note has been printed in the morning papers here, it having been received in a British news agency despatch.

Commenting on the statement in the document that the U.S. could not accept any conditions affecting the protection of the lives of Americans, The Lokal Anzeiger says that President Wilson is demolishing a man of straw with this statement. The German note, says the newspaper, "contains no such conditions. It merely expresses an 'expectation' and does not doubt that the German-American dispute is settled by the American Government will hold Great Britain to the observance of its duties under international law."

NEARING END OF FILIKHRAE

James Muir in Ottawa Journal.
The fact that parliament hears from the government itself the probability that all the railways of Canada will be nationalised in the near future, means that W. F. Macdonald, after years in the public ownership wilderness, is coming into his own.

The member for South York is the great public ownership advocate in the commons. He has presented the doctrine in season and out of season, there and in The Toronto World. He would nationalise all public utilities, and he has been doing so for a long time continued alone. Today he is the one man above all others who is able to stand up in the house and say that his is the policy which is about to be carried into effect. In earlier days he had to submit to many jibes from some of the very members who will now vote for the nationalisation of the railways when the issue is submitted to the house, which will probably be next session.