

## WHY PREMIER BORDEN AND SIR SAM FAILED TO AGREE

### SIR SAM HUGHES DISLIKED PERLEY

His Objection to Sir George Was His Selection as Overseas Minister, Establishment of Which Position He Was Opposed To—These Differences Led to Break With Prime Minister.

FORMER MINISTER OF MILITIA IN HIS REPLY TO PREMIER'S REQUEST FOR RESIGNATION SAYS IT WAS NEWS TO HIM THAT HE WAS CONDUCTING DEPARTMENT INDEPENDENT OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY.

SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD.

Ottawa, Nov. 14.—The correspondence which passed between Sir Robert Borden and General Sir Sam Hughes from October 18 to November 11 was made public today at the request of Sir Sam. It shows that the points of difference which finally caused the break between the Prime Minister and the Minister of Militia were the establishment of the portfolio of Overseas Forces and the appointment of Sir George Perley as Overseas Minister.

General Hughes was anxious to have Sir Max Aitken appointed and objected strongly to Sir George Perley. The correspondence began on October 18 and grew more strained as it proceeded until finally on November 1 General Hughes wrote a letter which prompted the premier to call for his resignation.

Sir Sam's November 1 Letter.

That letter which really tells the whole story is as follows:

Ottawa, Nov. 1, 1916.

Dear Sir Robert:

In reply to your memorandum of October 31st permit me in brief to summarize.

I do recall my visit to Great Britain in the autumn of 1914. I did expect both under the statutory law of Britain and under the law of common courtesy that I would have been permitted to exercise some "control and direction" over our gallant Canadian boys, in the way of organization.

But there had evidently been some communication to the effect that "control and direction" of this magnificent force should be under the British government direct. The then Mr. George Perley, acting high commissioner, implied such in the following words: "You do not pretend surely to have anything to do with the Canadian soldiers in Britain."

Criticizes Sir George Perley.

Further, Sir Robert, I spoke to you on my return and told you the circumstances both then and subsequent. You yourself know that last year you took occasion to speak to Sir George Perley concerning the matter. The treatment he accorded me after this was the only respectable or courteous treatment he ever gave me.

Regarding the consultative sub-militia council, it has only been tentatively formed. My way of doing things is to obtain results, not necessarily the creation of bodies organized by orders-in-council. As everyone knows what may seem workable in theory does not turn out in practice. On my arrival in England this year, I was met by your cablegram of July 31st, which you quote.

Consulted Officers.

During the month of August I visited every camp in England, France and Belgium, and consulted in detail with all the leading officers of the Canadian forces. I went further, and asked for suggestions from leading officers of every force.

Not content with this, however, I decided to try the thing out in practice and in an informal way, and before embodying anything in order-in-council would find any weak points in the system which might arise and could add any improvement necessary.

Every officer concerned was distinctly notified of this that no question of rank, or pay, or precedence of anything else, other than trial organization, was contemplated.

As a result, before I left England we had made many improvements. Permit me to draw your attention to nearly every commission which has been formed. They look beautiful on paper, but few, if any one of them have been anything like perfect in practice. The hospitals' commission, the pensions' board and the national service commission all seemed lovely when sent out, but everyone concerned with them knows the absurdities therein contained.

government in itself. On many occasions, but without much result. I have cautioned you against this course which has frequently led to well founded protest from your colleagues as well as detriment to the public interest.

Acted Without Authority.

I do not intend to dwell upon the instances, some of which are still under consideration, in which you have acted without authority or consultation in matters more or less important. Of these, the latest is the establishment of a militia sub-council in Great Britain, including the appointment of its personnel. I conveyed to you on the 31st July a clear intimation that upon so important a proposal, involving considerations of the gravest moment, the cabinet must be consulted before action was taken.

All the members of the government have full and direct responsibility in respect of the very important matters which the proposed council would advise upon and direct. The intimation which was given you in my telegram of 31st July should not have been necessary. As soon as it was received, you proceeded to disregard it. Some portions of your letter are expressive of the attitude which I have described and to which you evidently intend to adhere. Such an attitude is wholly inconsistent with and subversive of the principle of joint responsibility upon which constitutional government is based.

Cannot Excuse Letter.

But more than that, your letter is couched in such terms that I cannot overlook or excuse it. I take strong exception not only to statements which it contains but to its general character and tone. You must surely realize that I cannot retain in the government a colleague who has addressed to me such a communication. I regret that you have thus imposed upon me the disagreeable duty of requesting your resignation as minister of militia and defense.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) R. L. BORDEN.

Letter of Resignation.

On Nov. 11, General Hughes resigned. His letter of resignation is as follows:

Ottawa, Nov. 11, 1916.

Dear Sir Robert:

Your letter of Nov. 9th is at hand and it affords me much satisfaction to now tender you my resignation; indeed my letter of Nov. 1st rendered it impossible for me to remain your colleague unless you concurred in its correctness. For a long time I have retained the portfolio of militia only because I might the better help the soldiers in training and at the front to do the best I could toward winning the war, which is all that mattered. I have closed my eyes to the petty intrigues and ambitions about me. It is my intention still to devote my energies to the interests of those who have done so much to maintain the great cause of human liberty.

It is not necessary to analyze, in detail, all disappointing matters in my association with you. You state in the second paragraph of your letter of Nov. 9th:

"I have done my utmost to support you in the administration of your department."

This is pleasing news to me, but I learn it now for the first time.

Your statement that I had a strong tendency to assume powers which you do not possess and which can only be exercised by the government-in-council, is also, news to me. True, from the opening of Valcartier Camp such things were done with your full knowledge and authority. Upon my representations to you that the formation of the force would be seriously delayed were every petty detail to be brought before privy council, you acquiesced in my recommendation that we should proceed without order-in-council in matters of urgency and that they should be passed afterwards. This was done and has never been deviated from. War cannot be successfully waged on the tactics of a lawsuit.

Continued on page two.

### TELLS UNITED STATES WHERE POLICY LAX

Viscount Grey, in Answering American Note of Protest Against Black List, Says Americans Violated Neutrality.

Washington, Nov. 14.—The British reply to the last American note protesting against the trade blacklist, made public tonight by the state department, denies that rights of neutral traders, under international law, have been ruthlessly cancelled, defines the blacklist measure as a municipal regulation, plainly concerning only the British government and British citizens, and contends that it is designed to shorten the war.

The note fails to meet the American demand that the names of American firms be stricken from the blacklist, but attempts to convince the state department that the British position is just and founded on law. It leaves open the door for further negotiations, which are expected to follow.

Subject of Peace.

The note was subscribed by Viscount Grey, the British foreign minister, and was addressed to and transmitted by Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador at London. A part which attracted much official notice dealt with the subject of peace.

"Even though the military situation of the Allies has greatly improved," says the note, "there is still a long and bitter struggle in front of them and one which, in justice to the principles for which they are fighting, imposes upon them the duty of employing every opportunity which they have to overcome their opponents."

In its argument the note points out that German business houses throughout the world have furthered the cause of Germany in the war, and have been active agents "for the dissemination of German political and social influence, and for the purposes of espionage."

"In some cases," continues the note, "they have even been used as bases of supply for German cruisers, and in other cases organizers and paymasters of miscreants employable in the destruction of German political and social influence, or in the carrying out of operations which have been carried out in the territory even of the United States itself, and I am bound to observe, what I think will not be denied, that no adequate action has yet been taken by the government of the United States to suppress breaches of neutrality of this particularly criminal kind, which I know that they are the first to discountenance and deplore."

Ottawa, Nov. 14.—Casualty list: Infantry.

Died of wounds—Lieut. E. A. Porter, Chipman, N. B. Previously reported missing, now wounded but returned to duty—George Smith, 25 Pleasant street, Amherst, N. S.

Wounded—Bruce MacKinnon, 252 City Road, St. John, N. B. Mounted Rifles.

Wounded—J. E. Hazelwood, 62 Wall street, St. John, N. B.

FURNESS LINER LISTED AS LOST

Halifax, Nov. 14.—The Furness, Withy Company steamer Rappahannock, 28 days from Halifax, has been given up as lost. Cables from London state that there have been no reports regarding the Rappahannock.

### BRITISH CAPTURE BEAUCOURT FARM

In Present Successful Drive Army of Britain Take More Than Five Thousand Germans Prisoners and Advance About Three Miles East of Baupaume.

### CLARK OR KEMP FOR MINISTER OF MILITIA?

Sir Sam Hughes Will Quit the Department Today — Mr. McCurdy to be in Charge.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Nov. 14.—Sir Sam Hughes will bid good-bye to the officers of the militia department tomorrow and will hand over the keys of office to P. B. McCurdy, M. P., the under secretary of state. Today all his private property was removed. His two private secretaries, Miss McAdam and Miss Creggan, will remain in the militia department in the engineering branch.

General Hughes will devote some time to his private business and set his affairs in order.

It is understood that his successor will be appointed at once. He may be either Hon. A. E. Kemp, or Col. Hugh Clark, as it is understood that an Ontario man will get the appointment.

### BEAR RIVER YOUNG GIRL MURDERED

One of Victims of Terrible Triple Tragedy in Dudley, Mass.

Boston, Nov. 14.—Frank E. Deon, town moderator, tax collector and town counsel of Dudley, is dying at the Worcester Memorial Hospital as the result of a terrible tragedy which occurred at his home. Apparently crazed with drink Deon shot and killed his son, Robert, the latter's wife, and then shot himself.

Mrs. Robert Deon was formerly Miss Eleanor Crosby of Bear River, N. S. She was born in that town 23 years ago and came to Boston six years ago. She was one of a large family.

### ANOTHER MERCHANT SUBMARINE

Germans Building Sister Ship of Deutschland to Replace Bremen.

Washington, Nov. 14.—Another great transatlantic merchant submarine, to take place of the Bremen, sister ship of the Deutschland, which was lost with all hands on her maiden voyage to the United States, now is being built in Germany.

### ROUMANIANS FIGHTING DESPERATELY OBLIGED TO FALL BACK ON RIGHT BANK OF DANUBE, NEAR ORSOVA, AND ALSO IN ALT VALLEY OF TRANSYLVANIA.

The British drive, begun early Monday morning amid fog and rain in the region of the Ancre river in France, has netted them another village—Beaucourt, on the north bank of the Ancre. The capture of this village makes three that have fallen into British hands since the advance began, the other two being Beaumont-Hamel and St. Pierre Divion. There is no indication that the offensive has ceased at any point along the five mile front.

In the drive the British, thus far, have taken more than 5,000 German prisoners, and according to the last report, more captives are being brought in. Aside from the gains in the Ancre region the British also have made an advance about three miles southeast of Baupaume.

To the south of the Somme the Germans are busily engaged in shelling French positions in the region of Pressoire and on the sector of Blaches-La Maisonnette, with the French vigorously replying. On the remainder of the front only bombardments have occurred.

Roumanians Routed.

With comparative quiet still reigning on the Russian and Austro-Italian fronts, the Roumanian and Macedonian theatres continue the focal points of interest.

The Austrians near Orsova, and the junction of the Austrian, Roumanian and Serbian frontiers, have cleared the right bank of the Danube of Roumanians, a victory which probably means a lessening of the impediments the Roumanians have placed upon the navigation of the river in this region.

Again the Roumanians in the Alt Valley of Transylvania have been pushed back by the Austro-German forces, who also have captured, in the Jul Valley, the village of Bumbesti, and forced the Roumanian left wing near Dragoslavele to give way. Up in the north the Russians have been compelled to retire from the Gergy mountains to the Roumanian frontier.

The situation in Dobrudja still remains to be clarified. Just what the Russo-Roumanian troops and the forces of the Central Powers are doing there is not known. Berlin, Petrograd and Bucharest say merely that the situation is unchanged.

On the Monsatir plain of Serbia and north of the Cerna river troops of the Entente Allies are attacking the German-Bulgar lines. The battles have not reached a decision, according to Berlin.

Fall of Beaucourt.

London, Nov. 14.—The British have captured Beaucourt on the Somme front as a result of the continuation of their powerful drive, begun yesterday. The prisoners taken by the British number more than 5,000 up to the present, according to the official bulletin issued tonight. The statement reads:

"The village of Beaucourt-Sur-Ancre is in our hands. The prisoners reported to date number considerably over five thousand, and more are coming in."

"Today a local advance was made east of Butte De Warlencourt; practically all our objectives were gained. Some eighty prisoners were taken in this area."

Violent Bombardment.

Paris, via London, Nov. 14.—The bulletin issued by the war office tonight on the progress of the campaign reads:

"South of the Somme during the day the enemy artillery, which was vigorously replied to by our guns, violently bombarded the region of Pressoire and the sector of Blaches and La Maisonnette."

"In the Argonne we occupied, at Four De Paris, a crater caused by the explosion of a German mine."

"On the Verdun front there was an intermittent cannonade, more active in the regions of Douaumont and Vaux. Everywhere else the day was quiet."

The British Drive.

Paris, Nov. 14.—The British attack now in progress in the Ancre region was preceded by four days of intense bombardment, and began in a dense fog, says La Liberté's correspondent.

at the front. The British, he says, did not at first fire a shot, and were not perceived until they were upon the Germans.

Rising from a creeping attitude when a few yards from the German trenches they charged with hurrahs. A French officer who was present said he observed with astonishment the progress the British troops had made. Every man, says the correspondent, seemed to have a separate mission, and when he fell another immediately went after the same objective. At the village of St. Pierre Divion, where the fighting was exceptionally bitter, the British delivered ten assaults, and a whole German battalion, according to the writer, with the major commanding, laid down their arms. According to this correspondent the average depth of front penetrated by the British is from 1,000 to 1,200 yards.

British Answer Huns.

London, Nov. 14.—The admiralty has issued a further reply to the German charge regarding the treatment of survivors of the German submarine U-41, including the report of the commander of the British ship which sank the submarine, and affirms:

"It is directly, explicitly and completely untrue to allege that there exists, or ever has existed, an admiral's order, that it is not necessary to rescue the survivors of the crew of German submarines."

Germany Admits Repulse.

Berlin, Nov. 14, by wireless to Sayville.—The text of the official statement issued today by German army headquarters regarding operations in the western front says:

"Western theatre: Army group of Crown Prince Rupprecht: On both sides of the River Ancre yesterday there was violent fighting. Strong British attacks prepared by concentrated artillery fire of the heaviest calibres were launched against our positions forming an angle to the southwestward. The enemy under cover of the sacrifices succeeded in pushing us back from Beaumont-Hamel and St. Pierre Divion, together with the lines adjoining leading into the prepared positions.

"Our tenacious defense caused us considerable losses."

### CHIPMAN MAN LOSES LIFE

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### U. S. PROTESTS AGAINST BELGIAN DEPORTATIONS

Washington, Nov. 14.—Deportation of Belgian civilians into Germany for forced labor has reached such serious proportions that American Charge Grew, at Berlin has been directed by the state department to take the matter up personally with Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg. The charge was requested to say that such deportations could not but have a most unfortunate effect on neutral opinion, particularly in the United States, which has the welfare of the Belgian civilian population very much at heart.