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FRIDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 15 1918—FOURTEEN PAGES

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ROUND-UP OF DEFAULTERS STARTS IN TORONTO TODAY
French Capture German Positions on Mile Front in Champagne
SALIENT IN CHAMPAGNE FALLS BEFORE FRENCH
UP DRAFT DEFALTERS



In Opening Action of Spring Campaign, Allies Carry Important German Defences Three-Quarters of a Mile in Depth, Consolidating Gains.

Grand Headquarters of the French Army in France, Feb. 14.—The American artillery took a brilliant part in an important French raid yesterday between Tahure and the Butte du Mesnil, in the Champagne, participating in the preparatory bombardment and the ensuing barrage fire while the operation was being successfully executed.

The action was extremely interesting and the result most satisfactory. The assaulting troops brought back 160 prisoners and they established themselves in German positions to a depth of three-quarters of a mile along a front of nearly a mile.

The task of the assaulting forces was to attack and take a German salient dipping into the French position. It was a difficult operation owing to the nature of the ground, which formed a basin-like depression, into which the Germans could pour, the fire of their concentrated guns on the surrounding heights.

Six Hours Bombardment. The artillery preparation lasted six hours, and with the aid of aviators it was ascertained that the enemy's defensive positions, which were remarkably strong, had been broken up to a large extent. At 4.15 in the afternoon the order was given to the infantry units to go over the top. Every man had been instructed fully regarding the objectives to be attained.

Just before this a steady fine rain began to make the chalky earth like a skating rink. The troops, however, advanced with determination, although they were obliged occasionally to retreat their progress owing to machine gun positions having escaped the attention of the French and American gunners.

With the help of the courageous grenadiers these positions were stormed and destroyed, and their occupants were either killed or captured. By 4.30 clock rockets announced that all the objectives had been reached. The American gunners, with their French comrades, extended their fire, putting up an effective barrage to prevent counter-attacks, which, however, did not come, the Germans having been completely disconcerted.

WILL DISCUSS COAL SITUATION
West Will Be Asked, at Conference of Premiers, to Increase Production.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Provincial premiers and ministers, who have gathered in the capital to take part in a conference with the Dominion Government, will discuss at 9 o'clock on Friday morning, the question of most pressing urgency to be considered is that of increased production, with which is involved the labor problem, other matters such as soldiers' land settlement and provincial control of natural resources will probably involve long discussions.

Subsequent to a meeting of the reconstruction and development committee of the cabinet today, at which measures were discussed to ensure an adequate supply of fuel, it was officially announced that the schedule of fuel production and distribution, with special reference to the conditions anticipated for the winter of 1918-19 will receive the attention of the conference. In this connection it is probable that representatives of the western provinces will be asked to have all possible efforts made to increase the western production to a point that would make shipments of anthracite from the east in large quantities unnecessary.

For official ministers here tonight include Premier Mackenzie-King, Premier Aeneas Macdonald, Premier Arthur Meighen, Premier Borden, Premier Bennett, Premier Duggan, Premier Fisher, Premier Gwynne, Premier Joseph, Premier McCreery, Premier McPherson, Premier Mulholland, Premier Pennington, Premier Power, Premier Ross, Premier St. George, Premier Stewart, Premier Tupper, Premier White.

OFFICERS' TRENCH COATS. The regulation military trench coats for officers, direct importation, \$35 at Duggan's, 140 Yonge St.

CHILDREN DIE IN MONTREAL CONVENT FIRE
Top of Grey Nunnery Burned and Thirty-Eight Bodies Already Recovered.

Montreal, Feb. 14.—The lives of at least 38 little children were blotted out shortly after 3 o'clock tonight by fire in the fifth, or top, storey of the west wing of the Grey nunnery on Guy and Dorchester streets, and it is feared that the loss may run well to a hundred. Thirty-eight charred bodies were found by the firemen at 10.30, when the fire was under control, and it is known that while the nuns and soldiers were engaged in rescuing infants they were forced to leave many to die as the flames and smoke drove the rescuers from the building. The property loss is not excessive, as the blaze was practically kept to the one floor. The fire started near the tower, supposedly from the electric wiring. The top floor was used as a dormitory for the infants, being cared for by the nuns, and the lower part of the west wing was occupied by the wounded soldiers.

The loss of life amongst the children in the infants' home department of the nunnery could not be definitely ascertained tonight. All the other inmates of the big building are believed to have escaped. These include the nuns, nursing sisters, returned wounded or sick soldiers, aged, sick or crippled men and women, to the number of almost a thousand. They scattered in various directions, so that it may be some time before there can be a roll call.

A number of the soldiers were removed to hospitals, practically all the ambulances having been called into service in connection with the fire. None of the soldiers suffered injury through the fire or the consequent confusion, and within half an hour of the outbreak all of them had been removed to places of safety and comfort. There were about two hundred of them.

Sixty of them were taken to the Khaki Club and the others were distributed amongst the military hospitals on Drummond street, the Royal Victoria, Western and Montreal General Hospitals.

LORD BEAVERBROOK ABLE TO DO WORK
Government Appointed Canadian as Propaganda Minister for Fitness.

London, Feb. 14.—The appointment of Lord Beaverbrook as minister of propaganda aroused questions in the house of commons tonight. Bonar Law, replying, said that the prime minister had offered Lord Beaverbrook the appointment because he thought that Lord Beaverbrook could do the work successfully. Lord Beaverbrook would not be a member of the war cabinet.

James Hoggie asked if Beaverbrook would receive reports from paid spies of the government. Bonar Law: I do not know what is meant by paid spies. Beaverbrook's work will include the receiving of reports from servants of the government. A. S. White: "Is the government aware that this appointment has created widespread dissatisfaction?" Bonar Law: "Perhaps the questioner is better able to judge of that than myself."

Ontario Farmers Get Spring Wheat at Cost
Government Has Bought 60,000 Bushels for Distribution at \$2.75 a Bushel.

In order to increase as much as possible the amount of land devoted to the growing of wheat the Ontario Department of Agriculture has secured 60,000 bushels of spring wheat from the Dominion grain commissioner, and this will be distributed among Ontario farmers at cost, \$2.75 a bushel.

Distributing points have been established in Toronto, Chatham, Brampton, Lindsay and Woodstock. Farmers will be required to pay freight from these points unless a car lot is ordered by forming a club.

PETITION BRITAIN AGAINST BREWING OF CANADIAN GRAIN
Large Convention is to Be Called in Toronto This Month.

ACTING THRU PREMIER
Resolutions Will Be Presented to Dominion and Provincial Governments.

Canada, thru a great convention, is about to petition Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues in the Union government to send a formal ultimatum to Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George and the members of the imperial government. The Dominion Government will be asked to stipulate that not a bushel of grain shipped to Great Britain shall be used during the continuance of the war for the brewing of beer or the manufacture of alcoholic beverages. It is claimed that the adoption of such a policy by Great Britain would be equal to adding 10 per cent. or five hundred thousand men to the strength of the British army.

The proposal to make such a condition by the Dominion Government is based on a suggestion sent from a Canadian officer at the front—Homer B. Massey, M.P., C. L. C., B. E. F., who went from Toronto to join the imperial army. His letter was received by a prominent member of the Dominion Government executive at the Methodist General Conference offices, Queen street, Toronto, and acted like a match to a powder magazine.

The convention will also receive the annual reports of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance for the total suppression of the liquor traffic, and hold the annual election of officers of that body.

BISHOP AND MODERATOR RETURN. London, Feb. 14.—Bishop Richardson of Fredericton, and Dr. John Neil, moderator, have returned from France. They have driven as often as five times a day to gatherings of Canadian soldiers but, despite the strenuous nature of their work, Dr. Neil says that it was the most inspiring experience that he ever had.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES ITS POLICY IN REGARD TO FARM LABOR. NO CONSCRIPTION
Classification of Industries of Canada Will Be Made by War Trade Board.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Subsequent to a sitting of the cabinet council the government shortly before midnight gave out an announcement as to its immediate policy in regard to labor. The government will not conscript men for farm labor under the Military Service Act, but will take immediate steps to secure a registration and inventory of the man power of the Dominion.

The most important question considered at the conference was between the statements of the cabinet and representatives of organized labor as to how to organize the man power of Canada so as to enable Canada to make her contribution to the successful prosecution of the war in men, foodstuffs, munitions and ships. Numerous representations had been made to the government.

1. That men called out under the Military Service Act, but physically unfit, should be conscripted for farm labor.

2. That alien labor should be conscripted.

3. That male labor should be imported for agriculture and other essential industries.

4. That less essential industries should be closed.

5. That there should be compulsory registration of the man power and of the woman power of the country.

On these questions the government has had the benefit of consultation of the labor leaders who have also submitted their recommendations to the government. The government has also had the benefit of the recommendations of the representatives of the several provinces and after giving careful consideration to these representations the government has reached the following conclusions: Thru its representatives at the Ottawa conference, Canadian labor has expressed its unqualified disapproval of any form of conscription for service on the farms. The government, after careful consideration of these questions from all sides, is unable to accept the view that men called out under the Military Service Act, but physically unfit, should be conscripted for farm labor. The state is undoubtedly entitled to command the services of all its citizens in time of national peril, but the government recognizes that in addition to the objections so strongly urged by organized labor against industrial conscription, compulsory service of individual citizens for individual farmers in Canada is impracticable.

TROTZKY AND GERMANS QUARREL AND FUTURE CONFLICT IS POSSIBLE
Peace Discussion Ended in Violent Outbreak, and German Headquarters Considering Energetic Measures.

Zurich, Feb. 14.—The Munich, Bavaria, correspondent of The Neue Augsburg Zeitung says he learns that the discussions at Brest-Litovsk last Sunday between Dr. von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary; Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, and Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, were particularly stormy and ended in a violent rupture which bore all the seeds of a future conflict.

"That is why the conference at German main headquarters is discussing the expediency of very energetic military measures against the Russians," says the correspondent.

U.S. MANUFACTURERS VETO GERMAN BOYCOTT AFTER WAR
Action of Chamber of Commerce of United States Is Denounced As Futile and Vicious.

New York, Feb. 14.—The National Association of Manufacturers has denounced the proposal of a trade boycott on Germany after the war, it was announced tonight. The question was voted upon in a referendum submitted to its members by the chamber of commerce of the United States. The ballot of the association has been forwarded to Washington.

Disapproval of the boycott plan was voted by the association's board of directors on Feb. 3 before the referendum was submitted to the membership. A statement issued tonight by the association explains the adverse vote.

The economic boycott proposed by the referendum, it said, "is an unwarranted interference with the normal international relations, the handing of which rests with the president and congress. The creation of a boycott, as outlined by the Paris conference of 1916, we believe to be at variance with the sentiments of President Wilson as stated in his address to congress on April 6, 1917.

"We are but the champions of mankind. We shall be satisfied when those rights have been made as secure as the faith and freedom of the nations can make them. We have no jealousy of German progress. We do not wish to fight her with arms or hostile arrangements of trade if she is willing to associate herself with us and the other peace-loving nations of the world in covenants of justice and law and fair dealing.

"In view of these facts the action proposed by the chamber of commerce of the United States is, in our opinion, not only futile, but vicious and meets with our unqualified disapproval."

COURT-MARTIAL ON BOLO PRONOUNCES PENALTY OF DEATH
Only Fifteen Minutes' Deliberation Necessary to Find Bolo Guilty.

Paris, Feb. 14.—Bolo Pasha has been convicted and sentenced to death for treason. The prosecutor yesterday asked the court to condemn him on the fact that Bolo had received money from Count von Bernstorff, the former German ambassador at Washington, thru Adolph Pavenstedt, the head of the Amanek banking house of New York, even though the money was not used against France.

The court-martial deliberated for only 15 minutes. Darius Porchere, an accountant who was a co-defendant, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Filippo Cavalline, another co-defendant, who is under arrest in Italy, was sentenced to death, although he is not within the court's jurisdiction.

Without the slightest tremor Bolo Pasha heard Col. Voyer, president of the court-martial, pronounce sentence of death upon him amid an impressive silence in the courtroom. Merely shaking his head and shrugging his shoulders, as tho to say it was hopeless to fight against the odds, Bolo returned to his cell.

Awed by the soldiers with fixed bayonets, those who had gathered in the courtroom refrained from all demonstration, but the great crowds outside the court house emitted a terrific roar and cheer of approval as word of the sentence reached them, plainly showing the favor which the sentence of death found among the French people.

An appeal will be entered on a technicality, but the general trend of comment heard in legal, journalistic and political circles is: "With Bolo's death, Bolshevism will die."

BRUSSELS PROTEST AGAINST GERMANS LEADS TO FIGHTING
Suppression of Belgian Demonstration Results in Several Deaths.

Amsterdam, Feb. 14.—Les Nouvelles (Maastrecht) reports that the Belgian Government having ordered the Belgian judges in the occupied territory to pronounce all activists guilty of having announced the fall of the king's government and of proclaiming autonomy in Flanders, the three presidents of the Brussels court of cassation, placed under arrest Pierre, Toek and Dr August Borms, leaders of the activist movement. The Germans immediately hastened to the palace of justice in Brussels and arrested the three presidents, at the same time releasing Toek and Borms. The news spread like wildfire, and delegates representing 600 Brussels societies met in the main square, where a demonstration of thousands of persons was being carried out. The police and soldiers were killed or wounded.

No Man Apparently of Age of Class One Should Be Out Without Papers Showing Why He Is Not in Uniform.

Toronto men, whether single or married, who appear to be of the age of the men liable for service under the first call of the Military Service Act will protect themselves from a lot of trouble by always carrying with them papers to prove their right to be dressed in civilian clothes, because starting today officers of the Dominion Police, acting under authority of the department of justice, will commence to arrest men who cannot show satisfactory proof why they are not in khaki.

No military defaulter, or man who cannot prove he is not one, will be safe from arrest, no matter what the time of day or night or where he is. On being taken into custody a man will not be released until his standing in regard to the draft act is proved or found out, even if in order to do this it is necessary to keep him in custody for 24 hours.

Once taken into custody the police will see that every effort is being made to bring about his release at the earliest possible moment, this being accomplished by telephoning, telegraphing or sending by messenger the proof of papers necessary. The government will spare no expense in securing such information as quickly as possible. Of course, if such information is not secured, the man taken into custody will be made a member of the overseas forces if the proper physical qualifications.

Necessary Papers. To avoid arrest a man must be armed with papers, as follows: If in class one, an exemption permit. In the case of a man who has been exempted temporarily and is awaiting a notification to report to his regiment, the police authorities will be able to verify this by looking up his papers at the registrar's office. If above class one and married, his marriage license or a certified copy of it.

If above class one and single, a certified copy of birth certificate. If a United States citizen—either a United States military registration card, or United States citizenship papers.

In the case of a man claiming to be a United States citizen, and not having papers to prove it, he will be held in custody pending the receipt of a report from the United States consul. The foregoing rules will also apply to all those claiming to be of other nationalities than British.

LENS AGAIN TARGET FOR CANADIAN RAID
Some Germans Killed, Prisoners and Machine Guns Taken.

London, Feb. 14.—The following official communication was issued by the war office this evening: "Early this morning the enemy's trenches at Lens again were raided successfully by Canadian troops. A number of Germans were killed and a few prisoners and two machine guns were captured. The raiding party returned to our lines without loss." "Several other prisoners were brought in during the day by our troops." "On the southern portion of our front there was some hostile artillery activity along the Stachez River."