

Weather Forecast
Very Cold

The London Advertiser

HOME
EDITION

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THE LONDON, ONTARIO, ADVERTISER, SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 10, 1917. 128 COLUMNS

PRICE, TWO CENTS.

GERMANY BACKING DOWN BEFORE U. S. GREAT ALLIED AIR FLEET ATTACKS SUBMARINE BASE LONDON TO ASK CONGRESS TO PROTECT AMERICANS

KAISER'S GOVT. IS ASKING WILSON TO DISCUSS CRISIS

Berlin Wants Discussion With Washington To Prevent Two Nations Going To Actual War, Is News From American Capital.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Germany is understood here to have addressed to the United States a communication suggesting that the two Governments discuss ways and means of preventing actual war between them. While information regarding the channel through which the communication was addressed is lacking, it is probable it is being forwarded by the Government of Switzerland.

Germany is understood to have made it clear that although diplomatic relations have been broken, she greatly desires that peace be maintained. Preliminary outlines regarding the communication do not indicate that it carries with it any suggestion that Germany may modify her submarine warfare.

However, the whole communication is said clearly to invite this Government to make suggestions regarding steps it thinks might prevent war.

GERARD TO LEAVE GERMANY TONIGHT

U. S. Ambassador To Go Through Switzerland—Retuses To Talk.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—Via London, Feb. 10.—Ambassador Gerard's train will leave Berlin approximately as scheduled, but will enter Switzerland by way of St. Gallen instead of Basel, as originally planned. Americans who will travel with the ambassador were informed late this afternoon that their passage must be at the depot for inspection not later than 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, so as to avoid delay and confusion at the frontier. It is probable that the special train baggage capacity will be taxed to the utmost as the embassy staff and others permitted to travel with Gerard plan to carry most of their belongings with them. The train will consist largely of day coaches, with a saloon car for the ambassador, and possibly sleepers for the women. The train decided upon is shorter than the original one by way of Basel.

Not Worrying. Despite the fact that details of Mr. Gerard's departure have been indefinite until this morning, the Americans in Berlin have shown little tendency to worry, and the delicacy of the situation has not affected the general German public. No more attention has been paid to foreigners than is usual. Americans have been treated with rigid courtesy, and no objection has been raised to English being spoken publicly. The newspapers continue to devote themselves largely to news dispatches from America received by various routes, but there is little editorial comment. Apparently the press is waiting for some definite action by the United States in the direction of other, and dispatches which deal with the possibility or probability of maintaining peace between the two countries are given prominence.

Gerard Is Mourned. Ambassador Gerard authorized the Associated Press today to say that he has neither given nor will under any circumstances give an interview of any kind or description to anyone before he reports personally to President Wilson. The Ambassador made this statement to forestall irresponsible reports which he said his experience led him to anticipate.

McILWRAITH REFUSES SOFT HAMILTON JOB

Said to Have Resigned as Result of Interference at Ottawa.

Hamilton, Feb. 9.—Major McIlwraith, who has resigned from the command of the military hospital here, to make way for Capt. McBeth, of Toronto, declines to accept the post offered him as senior officer of the medical board to examine recruits here. "I am not looking for a soft job at the moment," said Major McIlwraith. "I am going to resume my private practice."

ACRIFT FOR FIVE DAYS AFTER ATTACK BY SUB

Four of Dauntless Crew Picked Up

Famishing. London, Feb. 10.—Three Englishmen and one American negro members of the crew of the torpedoed steamer Dauntless, have been picked up in a small boat at sea by a trawler, according to a Reuters dispatch from Madrid. The men had been without food for five days. They were taken to a hospital.

The Dauntless was a British steamer of 2,157 tons, carrying a crew of 23 men. A dispatch from Paris on February 8 said that two members of the crew were killed, and the captain seriously wounded when the boat was torpedoed. Later dispatch from London reported that six survivors had been landed, two of whom died as the result of their experiences.

TO HELP MAINTAIN BRITISH SUPREMACY IN AERIAL FIGHTING



LIEUT. HARRY A. YATES, a London boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Yates, now of Ottawa, who has transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service, and reached England safely with an aviation draft a day or so ago. Lieut. Yates has been connected with the Mechanical Transport at Niagara Camp, Camp Borden, and later, at Exhibition Camp, Toronto.

GREAT FLEET OF AIRPLANES BOMBED BASE OF U-BOATS

Allied Airmen Swooped On Zeebrugge at Dusk Yesterday.

Amsterdam, Holland, Feb. 10.—Via London, 1:55 p.m.—The Telegraaf says that a fleet of airplanes at dusk yesterday attacked the Belgian coast town of Zeebrugge. The Germans fired 300 shells from anti-aircraft guns in an attempt to drive off the attackers.

Zeebrugge has for months been one of the German submarine bases.

QUEBEC FIRE ROUTS OUT MANY FAMILIES; FACTORIES ABLAZE

Quebec, Feb. 10.—Fire shortly after 5 o'clock this morning routed eleven families into the streets from dwellings in St. Malo suburb. Firemen saved a number of children from the flames, but there was no casualty.

TWO FACTORIES ABLAZE. Quebec, Feb. 10.—The biscuit factory of W. Charest and the sausage factory of C. Couillard, on St. Joseph street, extending in the rear to St. Francis street, are on fire since 5 o'clock this morning. In a blizzard, with the wind blowing at 40 miles an hour, the firemen are putting up a game fight against the flames. It is feared both establishments are doomed, but hope is held that the flames will be kept from the neighboring business places in this commercial section.

The fire, which started in the Charest biscuit factory and spread to the Couillard sausage factory this morning, is now under control. The loss is estimated at \$25,000.

Accident Takes Life of Private At Niagara Falls

(Special To The Advertiser.) Niagara Falls, Ont., Feb. 10.—Pte. John Jones, 38, single, of Frontier Force, whose home is in Brantford, Ont., was killed almost instantly this morning, when instructor Joseph Frost, thinking he had inserted blank ammunition, pulled the trigger of a machine gun. A rigid inquiry has been ordered.

UNFILED ORDERS. New York, Feb. 10.—The unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation on January 31 last, were 11,474,654 tons; a decrease of 73,223 tons compared with December 31.

TIME FOR LONDON TO WAKE UP ON THE NATURAL GAS QUESTION

While London fiddles with the natural gas question and conjures up delays, the industries of other communities in Western Ontario defy the coal famine and proceed to their business without fear of shortage or shut-down.

The natural gas situation in London gives evidence of an attempt on the part of a high power to shut the fluid foot out of the city. The dictatorial methods used in several instances are being repeated, and London takes no serious steps to prevent the manufacturers from becoming disgruntled. Not only has London lost industries in the past because firms were allowed to slip through our fingers, but new industries have gone to the other cities because they were assured of a natural gas supply.

Today 13,000,000 feet of natural gas pass the city's very doors. This is equivalent of 740 tons of coal, or more than enough to run the city industrially. Of course all of this gas cannot be secured, but it is certain that a portion could be secured, and the city does not need to tie itself down to an agreement. The city might endeavor to locate natural gas near the city. If it is not willing to do this, it should not cut off its nose to spite its face. It should secure the gas at the best price, on the best proposition offered.

It is said to The Advertiser on the best of authority that the McClary Manufacturing Company has been planning the installation of ten immense furnaces to facilitate its output. This would mean the employment of more labor, and the enlargement of the plant. It is for these furnaces that the company hopes to secure natural gas, and if it can be secured it is believed that the company will become an extensive steel manufacturer in addition to its present many other activities.

IT MIGHT BE THE BIRTH OF A GREAT NEW INDUSTRY FOR THE CITY OF LONDON.

Natural gas costs between \$2 and \$4 for an amount which equals in heat units a ton of coal. There is no firing required, no waste when the plant is not being used. There are no ashes to be carried away, and no smoke to be consumed. The industries of Hamilton, Woodstock, Chatham, Windsor, Brantford, Sarnia, consume great quantities of the fuel that Nature placed along the Erie shore to be tapped for man's benefit. How much this has meant to these cities—and to London—can be ascertained by an interview with Industrial Commissioner Philip. The lack of natural gas has been one of his most serious handicaps. Tremendous amounts of natural gas are carried to Hamilton and used in the great industries of that city. At the present time the Tilbury gas is being used for domestic purposes there. Thousands and thousands of dollars have been saved to Hamilton during the coal shortage.

THE STEEL COMPANY OF HAMILTON USES 3,000,000 FEET OF NATURAL GAS A DAY.

London should attack this proposition at once. No company should be given privileges which will tie the city up for years. The city's rights should be safeguarded. But the manufacturing interests of the city and the general welfare of the community should be considered.

"NATURAL GAS WOULD BE THE INDUSTRIAL SALVATION OF LONDON," said a manufacturer today. "THOSE WHO SEEK TO DICTATE AGAINST ITS ENTRANCE ARE DOING THE CITY A GREAT INJURY."

NATIONAL SERVICE SENDING MANY SKILLED WORKERS TO HELP MOVEMENT OF TRAINS

Ottawa, Feb. 10.—The practical value of the man-power inventory recently completed by the national service board is now being demonstrated. A permanent call to national service has already been made. The coal situation and other transportation difficulties have been traced largely to scarcity of locomotive engineers, roundhouse mechanics and other skilled labor. The names of many such men are available through the national service cards which they have filled out and sent to Henry Drayton, chairman of the railway commission, has now requisitioned several hundred men of these skilled trades through the national service board.

A special staff was immediately put to work at the national service statistics branch locating the men needed from among those who are skilled in the trades required and who are now occupied in other lines, but have expressed a willingness to go back to their old occupations during the war if needed in the service of the country.

Within 24 hours of the receipt of the call the names of hundreds of men capable of solving the situation were in the hands of the railway commission.

BRYAN WANTS WAR REFERENDUM

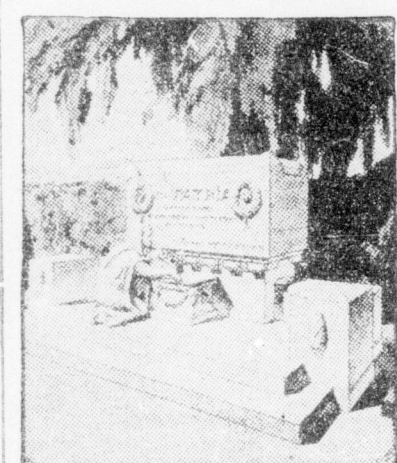
Washington, Feb. 10.—Thousands of telegrams from different parts of the country, urging steps to maintain peace between the United States and Germany, reached the White House today. Many of them were in English, and evidently were the result of an organized movement.

Representatives of the Emergency Peace Federation, recently organized at New York, called at the White House today in an effort to make an engagement to see President Wilson next week. A mass meeting will be held here Monday. One of the objects of the movement is to secure a referendum on war as suggested by William J. Bryan.

CETTE IS UNABLE TO SUPPLY FOOD TO SWISS

Paris, Feb. 10.—Cette, the sole sea outlet permitted to Switzerland by the German submarine note, is absolutely incapable of supplying the country's needs, according to a representative of the Matin, who went to the port to make an investigation. The traffic of Cette has doubled since the outbreak of the war, but the war space and equipment are the same as in time of peace. Switzerland sends three trains daily for merchandise, but she has no means of getting it out. The Matin's representative says that Cette might be able to furnish foodstuffs to keep Switzerland from starvation, but that it would be quite impossible for it to meet the requirements of Swiss industries, the harbor not being designed for the handling of bulky or heavy merchandise.

HERE LIE BRITISH AND CANADIANS IN SOIL OF GERMANY



Here lie British and Canadian soldiers, who were taken prisoners by the Germans and died during their internment at Gisenau Camp. This monument was erected to them at the expense of their fellow prisoners, who have thus been able to honor the heroic dead, even though they rest in foreign soil. The photograph from which the illustration was made was sent by Sgt. Saiter, 3rd Battalion, to his wife, who resides at Thorndale. He has been at Gisenau for nearly two years, and according to his letters, has been fairly well treated.

BERNSTORFF GIVEN EVERY AID BY U. S. LANSING ASSERTS

Replies To Charge Made by Dr. von Stumm.

GERARD AGAIN DELAYED?

Reported That He Will Be Detained Until Bernstorff Sails.

Later it was announced that the Frederick VIII will sail Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The statement attributed to Dr. William von Stumm, German under-secretary for foreign affairs, that Germany has detained Ambassador Gerard, has been denied by Count von Bernstorff, who has been prevented by the United States from telegraphing today to the authenticity of a statement of that kind, which is so directly contrary to the facts. Every facility and convenience has been placed before Count von Bernstorff, and he would have been allowed to send a full statement of the less regarding the sovereignty. Whether he availed himself of this or not is his responsibility.

Germany Fully Informed. The German Government has been informed with the fullest details of all events in this country through different sources, the Swiss minister here, who has been empowered to represent German interests, and the Spanish ambassador in Berlin, through whom our communications have been passing. The authorities have expressed, however, that there has been a very unusual delay in Ambassador Gerard's departure.

Secretary Lansing announced today receipt of advice from the Swiss minister here that Gerard's departure had been changed, and that he would not leave Germany until Count von Bernstorff and his family had returned to Berlin. No details were given out here as to the exact route to be followed.

Another Delay. A Berlin dispatch last night, that Gerard's departure had been again changed, and that he would not leave Germany until Count von Bernstorff and his family had returned to Berlin. No details were given out here as to the exact route to be followed.

AMERICANS DETAINED.

Berlin, Feb. 10.—Via London, Feb. 10.—Although Ambassador Gerard, his wife and a fairly large number of Americans with more or less official standing, have received assurances that they may leave Berlin on Saturday night, the bulk of Americans in Berlin are still somewhat in the dark as to when they will be able to get away.

Most of these who wish to leave have already applied to the police for formal permission, but few, if any, have as yet received it. The rule generally enforced, but sometimes relaxed, that at least a fortnight must elapse between the date of application and the granting of permission to leave is apparently being rigidly adhered to. The authorities presumably intend to thoroughly investigate every case.

DEVONIAN IS SAFE AT LIVERPOOL PORT

Boston, Feb. 10.—The arrival at Liverpool of the Leyland liner Devonian, for whose safety some fears had been expressed in local shipping circles, was announced in a cablegram received by agents here today. The Devonian sailed from this port January 29.

EIGHT PERSONS PERISH IN BOARDING-HOUSE FIRE

South Bethlehem, Pa., Feb. 10.—Seven or eight persons, it is believed, lost their lives in a fire which destroyed a boarding house here early today. The bodies of four men and a woman have been recovered.

NO MOVE YET FOR U. S. ARMY BUT NAVY IS GETTING READY

President Will See To It That American Shipping Is Protected, But Will Place the Burden of Actual Warfare On Germans.

New York, Feb. 10.—All information with respect to the clearing of vessels at the customs house, including their names, is being withheld. Officials said today that this was being done for the present on orders from Washington.

(By Carl D. Groat.)
(Special To The Advertiser.)

Washington, Feb. 10.—The administration, fearing that ultimately war or "a state of war" with Germany must come, is anxious to keep alive the martial spirit in America.

It wishes to guard against the sapping influences of an undue sense of security. On the other hand, there is no manifest move to raise an army for actual war, though there has been some progress made toward naval and economic preparedness.

This epitomizes the Government position today at the close of one week of broken relations between the United States and Germany.

SHIVERING IN PORTS.

It finds much of the neutral shipping ordinarily plying the Atlantic shivering in home ports. Germany has slain travelers in an apparently indiscriminate sea war, and shipping has been destroyed at the rate of about three-quarters of a million tons monthly.

WILSON'S POLICY.

The president himself has determined to follow the literal wording of his recent speech to Congress, to ask only for the means of protecting American seamen's and people's lives. He will keep upon Germany the burden of an actual declaration of war.

UNIVERSAL TRAINING FOR U. S. PROPOSED IN SENATOR'S BILL

All Male Citizens To Undergo Six Months Military Training.

SURPRISE ATTACK BY FRENCH TROOPS SCORES OVER FOE

Violent Artillery Fighting at Verdun, But No Infantry Move.

Washington, Feb. 10.—A universal military training bill was favorably reported to the Senate today by the military affairs committee. Chairman Chamberlain submitted the bill without comment, saying that it goes to the chiefs of staff for their consideration. The bill provides that all male citizens or those who have declared their intent to become citizens, shall undergo six months military or naval training in the year in which they reach the age of 19 or in the year when they first become liable to such service up to the age of 25. All men receiving such training would be held in army or navy reserve until they reached the age of 35.

Paris, Feb. 10.—The following official report was given out here today: "We made surprise attacks last night on enemy posts west of Auberville and in the sectors of Bazancourt and Parroy, and the aerial temperatures for the French artillery fighting last night on the front between Vacherelle and Cauleux (French border), but no infantry action."

"Our German airplanes were brought down yesterday near Reimsville-En-Haye by the fire of our special cannon. Last night one of our aviators set forth to drop bombs on the railway stations and barracks at Karlsruhe (in Germany, about fifty miles from the French border). His objectives were attained. He set forth in a French machine at 10:50 p.m. and returned at 2:15 a.m. this morning, his mission having been accomplished."

"Our German airplanes dropped bombs this morning in the region of Dunkirk, and last night and again this morning on Amiens. About fifty tons of bombs were dropped on Nancy and one civilian was killed and four were wounded."

Call For Aid From Old Boys

Mr. Edward Parnell's Example Commended by Sir Geo. Gibbons to Relatives of Londoners Now in the United States.

An inspiration came to Sir George Gibbons, chairman of the Patriotic Campaign committee, when he received this morning the following night lettergram:

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 9, 1917. Sir George Gibbons, London, Ont. Have instructed Parnell Bread Company to donate five hundred dollars and am sending forward my personal check for five hundred more to London Patriotic Fund campaign. May success crown your efforts. The Empire expects London to do its duty and I have no doubt it will.

Sir George believes that Mr. Parnell's example will be followed by many former Londoners in all parts of the continent if their relatives will mail this clipping to the absent citizens. So he makes an appeal to the relatives of old boys and girls in the following letter:

To the Editor of The Advertiser: Re Patriotic and Red Cross Funds. While the committee deems it desirable to withhold from publication for the present particulars of the splendid subscriptions already received, it seems to me that an exception ought to be made of the enclosed (Mr. Parnell's telegram) as its publication now may suggest in time to former Londoners, more particularly those now residing in the United States, similar action. Yours truly, GEORGE C. GIBBONS, Chairman of committee.

THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 15; lowest, 5 below.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 10; lowest, 10 below.

TOMORROW—VERY COLD.

Toronto, Feb. 10.—8 a.m.

Today—Fresh to strong west and northwest winds; fair and very cold.

Sunday—Fair and very cold.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Victoria 42 40 Cloudy

Calgary 36 15 Cloudy

Winnipeg 6 18 Clear

Port Arthur 4 20 Clear

Saskatoon 4 22 Clear

Toronto 10 3 Clear

Ottawa 4 3 Clear

Montreal 10 8 Fair

Quebec 18 4 Snow

Fairfield Point, 18 4 Snow

Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

The eastern U. S. is now covered over the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and gales with snow and rain have occurred in the Maritime Provinces.

Snow has also fallen in Quebec and Eastern Ontario and cold weather prevails from Saskatchewan and to the St. Lawrence Valley.