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TURKISH ARMIES FACING UTTER RUIN

They Are Despatching Valuable Documents to Erzerum—Germans Are Making Fierce Assaults to Drive the French From North Bank of the Aisne—Cunard Line Will Continue Sailings as Usual—Emperor William Inspecting the Damaged Cruisers.

TURKS FORESEE "UTTER RUIN."

PETROGRAD, Feb. 3.—It is reported that Envoy Pasha foreseeing utter ruin for the Turkish armies has attempted to despatch valuable documents betimes to Erzerum. The Russians have, however, captured a considerable quantity of valuable documents, among them, letters affording proof that the Turkish invasion of the Caucasus was a settled thing early in September.

SUBMARINES CAUSE NO ALARM.

LONDON, Feb. 3.—As the Lusitania is now on her way to England from New York it is questioned in shipping circles whether the Cunarder is in any danger from German submarines in the Irish Sea. Liverpool mercantile authorities show no alarm. The Cunard Company says it has no reason to make any alteration in its sailing schedule and Col. Cannon, one of the directors of the line said: "We have every confidence that the Admiralty will dispose of hostile craft in Liverpool's bay as they have done elsewhere. It is our intention while taking every precaution, to maintain our sailings as usual."

The War Risk Insurance Association do not consider the presence of one or two German submarines off Liverpool involves any unreasonable risk to the safety of ships.

VON KLUCK'S ARMY BUSY AGAIN.

PARIS, Feb. 3.—Reports from the front say, "Close and fierce fighting in the region of St. Paul has inaugurated a new German drive to force the passage of the Aisne at Soissons, less than sixty miles from Paris. Moroccan troops stationed near St. Paul in the North Bank of the Aisne have repulsed successive charges by von Kluck's infantry. Von Kluck's artillery has remained on the north bank of the river. Re-inforcements are being pushed across the Soisson's bridge to the support of the battalions at St. Paul. Latest reports to-day described the German assaults as a determined effort to drive the French from the north bank of the river.

KAISER VIEWS DAMAGED CRUISERS.

BERLIN, Feb. 3.—Emperor William is at Wilhelmshaven, the second most important naval station in Germany, to-day, to inspect the warships stationed there and look over the units of the squadron which participated in the North Sea battle including the Seydlitz, which was squarely hit by one shell and the Kolberg, which was struck by two.

The Emperor who has visited west and east fronts will complete his inspection of the Empire's armed forces by visiting the newly organized armies still garrisoned in Germany.

ORGANIZE AEROPLANE SQUADRON IN CANADA.

HALIFAX, N.S. Feb. 3.—Capt. E. L. Janney, a Canadian aviator, who has made a name for himself both before and during the present war, returned from the front on the steamer Zealand, which arrived this morning. He has been doing scout duty for the British army during the last few weeks. He is now returning to organize a squadron of aeroplanes to be built, equipped and manned in Canada.

GERMAN GENERAL KILLED BY A SENTRY.

PARIS, Jan. 21 (by mail to avoid the censor).—A despatch from Marseilles says that the German general, von Freisne, who was a prisoner in Corsica, has died as a result of a bayonet wound received from a French sentry near Ajaccio.

The general was going out of bounds, according to the despatch, when the sentry warned him, and, the general paying no attention, repeated the warning. Thereupon the general is said to have struck the sentry in the face. The sentry replied with the bayonet, and the general soon died.

General von Freisne was quartered at Marseilles for a time before being sent to Corsica, and made himself unpopular, the despatch says, by his arrogant attitude.

AUSTRALIA'S SECOND CONTINGENT IN EGYPT.

LONDON, Feb. 3.—The second Australian contingent has arrived in Egypt, and has joined the first contingent.

KAISER HAS INVESTED IN NEW YORK BONDS.

LONDON, Feb. 3.—The Kaiser and his family are reported to have invested heavily in New York bonds, to preserve their fortune in case of disaster.

PATIENT ESCAPES FROM HOSPITAL

An Indian, a patient in the Public Hospital at Smith's Falls, escaped in his retiring attire and ran down one of the streets in that town on Thursday. Two nurses pursued him. He was captured by one of the male attendants of the hospital. He was suffering from pneumonia and declared he wanted to go to some of his friends. He was taken back to the hospital for treatment.

WAS HONORABLY ACQUITTED

As we were preparing for press we were informed that Mr. Richard Chapman was honorably acquitted at Cobourg yesterday of the charge arising out of the accidental shooting of the Golden Girl in the suburbs of Port Hope while he was practising with a boy's rifle.

In our opinion Mr. Chapman should have been acquitted long ago as there never was a shadow of an intent on his part, the shooting having been purely accidental, and accidents will happen.

An unfortunate feature of the case was the false swearing on the part of some of the witnesses, and we would like to see prosecutions for perjury with long terms of imprisonment follow. —Port Hope Times.

WILL CUT HAIR FOR \$1,000

Rev. J. D. Morrow, the "athletic parson" of Dale Presbyterian church Toronto, only wears a covering for his fine crop of hair on very special occasions, but when he does the uniform of his rank as captain in the King's Own Guards he sports the cap in accordance with the regulations. It is nearly a year since he swore off wearing a hat, and his appearance barbed on the downtown streets has attracted considerable attention. Hats are not necessary, he says, and he never gets a cold in the head. Mr. Morrow offers to have his hair cut off if someone will give him \$1,000 towards the completion of his famous church for doing so.

WORSE THAN ASPY

At Winnipeg the other day four hundred men under training for war service arose as one man and protested against the quality of the food supplied by the Militia Department. There was such odoriferous proof of their complaint that the officer of the mess sent it all away, and substituted cheese.

In Winnipeg it is stated that the Government let the contract for feeding the men to a political supporter, for twenty-five cents per man per meal and that, not being in that line of business himself, he farmed out the contract to a caterer for fourteen cents per man per meal, which every man in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Batteries, the Army Service Corps, and the Medical Corps was served—a profit amounting to over \$130,000 per day! It is almost incredible, but if the facts be as stated, the man who got the contract from the Government should be court-martialed and shot. And he probably should not be shot alone. —Montreal Herald-Telegraph

RHODES SCHOLARSHIP FROM TRENTON

The Toronto World said:—"Feeling that a Trinity man ought to receive the Rhodes scholarship, the committee made the award to Arthur Kent Griffin, a graduate of Trinity College of 1914. H. S. Hayes, the business manager of Torontoensis was regarded as Trinity's first choice, but was rejected on account of being two months over age." The loss is felt by Trenton as he is a graduate of our High School. However it is an honor that we have produced a man worthy of the Rhodes Scholarship. —Courier

DESERONTO ELECTION

Deseronto, Feb. 1.—The following were to-day elected to fill vacancies in the Municipal Council: A. H. Richardson, J. R. Strinton, George A. Farnham, Thomas Fox, E. Armitage.

BARRIE PAPER SCORES THE FIRE UNDERWRITERS

The Barrie Advocate says, "Just why inspectors for Fire Underwriters' Associations (which are merely combinations of fire insurance companies) should be allowed to drop into a town, ring in a fire alarm and summon the Fire Department to make a test of the efficiency of the firemen and fire-fighting appliances is incomprehensible. And when these periodical visits are followed up by almost temporary orders to make certain 'improvements' the wonder grows that municipalities tolerate the bar-faced 'hold-ups.' A few weeks ago one of these inspectors rang in an alarm in Barrie, and this is followed by a report presented to the council last week. The brigade threw water with 250 feet of hose in two minutes from time alarm was sent in, but, said the report, 'a deplorable feature was that certain deficiencies reported in 1912 were still in existence.' Now he wants seven paid men on duty at the hall all the time, kicking their heels off waiting for a fire. He also wants four horses owned by the town, and he has a few other recommendations. We have about as much need for seven paid firemen as a duck has for an umbrella. The records show that our brigade has been as prompt in turning out to fire as in many of the cities, where paid men are kept, and the small fire loss here is evidence that the efficiency of the brigade and equipment will compare most favorably with any town in Canada. The opinion of most business men in town seems to be that these inspectors, clothed with a self-appointed authority and in order that they may hold their job, other people are made to suffer."

HOLSTEIN MEN DID NOT ARRIVE

The Belleville Holstein-Friesian Breeders' Club was to have held its annual meeting in the city yesterday, but all the officials and members were unable to reach Belleville by train or stage. What arrangements will be made is not known yet.

NEW COURSE AT ARMOURIES

Major D. Barragar who has charge of the officers and non-commissioned officers training class which has been organized this week at the armouries under the auspices of the 49th Regiment, is much encouraged by the number of young men who are desirous of enrolling in the course. There are a number of recruits of the 49th who look for N. C. O.'s, and some 15th men are striving for Lieutenancies. Altogether the class is about 25 in number.

DISTURBANCE IN MUNICIPAL CIRCLES

Perry Sound is having an interesting time in municipal life. There is talk of upsetting the late election. It seems that the nomination was not held at the time specified by law, being held from 7 to 8 p.m. instead of 7.30 to 8.30. It is claimed that several candidates who intended entering the field were deprived of the privilege by this mistake. However, the new council and mayor are determined to stick to the boat whether she floats or sinks.

THE SOLDIER'S PRAYER

Judge Deroche frequently opens Bridge Street Sunday School by having the school boys join in what he calls the prayer of our soldier boys. "A mighty and most merciful Father, forgive me my sins. Grant me thy Peace. Give me thy Power. Bless me in life and death. For Jesus Christ's sake—Amen."

BLOCKADE IS BEING BROKEN

The snowblockade is fast being broken on the roads and railroads. Trenton and Frankford stages reached the city today, after long and arduous trips while the mail from the Belleville Post Office was taken out by a gutter, which was to meet some one from Tweed half way.

The C. N. R. was entirely blocked yesterday and today, supreme efforts are being made in this district to get the trains in motion. Everything was tied up on the C.O.R. north and south, both the northern points and those on the Pictou line being completely isolated. The C.P.R. train from Toronto got in late this morning and one left Belleville about seven, westbound.

The Grand Trunk had a big staff of men on the job in the yards. The trains east and west are running regularly now.

The city has a large staff of men clearing away the banks on Front street and making crossings. Scarcely a farmer living at any distance has broken his way into town.

MILITARY NEWS IN BELLEVILLE

Colonel Preston, C. C. the 39th Battalion and Major Bywater of the same unit of the Third Contingent were in town today. This morning they with Col. Marsh and Col. Ketcheson visited the two armouries, the catering factory and various other places which will be utilized for the accommodation of the 39th battalion.

Lumber has been delivered at the armouries, where certain temporary changes are going to be made for the 39th Battalion.

A model bank will be built for the carpenters to copy in making the benches for the men of the 39th Battalion to be used in the canning factory.

Mr. Charles Bostel, a former resident of Belleville was in town yesterday, and today renewing old acquaintances incidentally and attending his military police duties. He is a member of one of the contingents at Kingston and is accordingly on active service.

The Fifteenth and Forty-Ninth volunteers make a fine impression as they drill on the armouries floor these days. The armouries drill hall today was sufficiently warm for drilling and the men soon warm up with the exercises.

The expenditure which will be necessitated by the mobilization of the 39th Battalion in Belleville will be very great, outside of the initial or preparatory expenses. Kingston considers that her 1800 or 1800 soldiers are worth \$88,000 or \$100,000 per month to the Limestone City. At that rate Belleville's advantage should be in the neighborhood of some \$65,000 to \$75,000 per month.

One of the Belleville bakers has secured the contract to deliver four hundred loaves of bread daily to the troops, that is one pound per man, the regular ration per diem.

PETERBOROUGH MOUNTED RIFLES

The local squadron of the 8th Mounted Rifles will not leave for Ottawa on Wednesday as was told the men on Saturday. Since then further word has been received that the squadron will not leave Peterborough until February 8th at least. Meanwhile the Mounted Rifles are being drilled twice a day.

The regulations in regard to drunkenness will be vigorously enforced. On Saturday a member of the squadron became intoxicated and wound up in the police station. This morning he was fined \$2.00 and he will be struck off the strength of the regiment.

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THOUGHT TO BE CAPT. PEARSON WHO FELL FIGHTING AT LA BASSE

A report was current on the street today that Capt. H. A. Pearson, formerly of Lindsay, and son of Mr. John Pearson, of Haliburton, was among the slain near La Basse, France, on January 23rd. This rumor gained currency as a result of a despatch in this morning's Toronto papers which stated that "Lieut. Price, of the Canadians was killed while leading his company into a trench and another officer named Pearson, is reported to have been killed."

Capt. Pearson was formerly identified with the 19th (St. Catharines) regiment, and had been prominently identified with the West end (Toronto) Y.M.C.A. until the Third Contingent left for Salisbury Plains, when he was sent with the contingent in connection with Y.M.C.A. work. Some time ago he was ordered to France, and in the last letter received by his father, he stated that he was at the front.

There is said to be a Captain Pearson with the Princess Patricia, and he may be the officer who fell in action. Mrs. H. A. Pearson is at present with her parents in Peterboro.—Lindsay Post.

TOY BALLOON FRIGHTENED RESIDENTS OF HALIBURTON

There was something doing at Haliburton on Friday night, and the residents of the quiet village in the northern highlands went through a period of suspense and excitement similar to what the seacoast towns in England experienced on the occasion of the recent German raid.

Early in the evening some residents of Haliburton were surprised to see a mysterious aircraft passing over the village, and the news of the discovery spread like wildfire. Everybody took to the street and watched with bated breath the journey of the craft in the heavens. Some of the villagers declared that they could hear the mechanism of the craft in operation, others were positive they saw the occupants shift their position, while a young boy whispered to a friend that one of the aviators had a curled mustache of the Kaiser's William type.

Men who had faced bears and wild

cats in the northern woods shivered with fear as visions of bombs dropped from the heavens loomed up before them. Several of the more courageous hid themselves in their homes for their rifles and would come close enough to mother earth to permit of them puncturing it and capturing the aviators. It was afterwards discovered that one of the guns carried by a resident had no ammunition.

Several of the villagers, however, appeared to be taking a great deal of pleasure out of the excitement prevailing and exchanged winks and nods at brief intervals. The climax came when an announcement was made that the "airship" was climbing what a paper balloon, which the village firemen had sent up as a joke.

The villagers wooded their way home by the shortest possible route, while the laughter of those who were "on" could be heard nearly to Donald's

"WAR BABY" CROSSED TWO OCEANS TO SOLDIER FATHER

The following from the Mail and Empire will prove interesting reading to Prince Edward people.

Gordon B. Johnson, Jr., the ten months' old grandson of J. Wesley Johnson, member for West Hastings in the Legislature, is a real "war baby" although he was born before the war broke out. When England took up arms in defence of Belgium's neutrality little Gordon Johnson was in Japan, where his father, Gordon B. Johnson, R. E., was Canadian Trade

Commissioner. Mr. Johnson a graduate of the Royal Military College, and a former officer of the Royal Engineers, obtained leave of absence from Sir George E. Foster, and offered his services to the British War Office. He was accepted and rejoined his old regiment, the Royal Engineers, in England in November. His wife and son came home to Canada with him and the youthful traveller and his mother's next week crossed another ocean, this time to England.

Captain Johnson, R.E., is a brother of Mrs. R. G. K. Hopburn of Pictou.—Pictou Times.

IS GERMANY FACING SERIOUS SHORTAGE OF FOOD SUPPLIES?

Whether the new food regulations in Germany will enable that country to stave off starvation or not, this much is certain, that they have effectually put a stop to any further food importations by that country. In the negotiations between the United States and Great Britain regarding neutral shipping, considerable discussion had taken place over the sending of foodstuffs to Germany. The United States had claimed the right to send grain to German ports, providing that such was sent to private merchants for general consumption and not to or for the army. Sir Edward Grey had conceded the contention, provided that satisfactory proof could be given of destination. Now, however, the German Government has seized all grain and flour supplies and prohibited dealing by private citizens. Under conditions like these, not the most sanguine American exporter could expect to get grain into Germany, as is frankly admitted at Washington and by the leading American papers.

Meanwhile it is much to be doubted whether the German Government's explanation that the steps taken will ensure a good supply till the next harvest is conformable with the facts. The New York Post, in analysing the situation, comes to the conclusion that

a most serious situation in regard to food supplies already exists in Germany. It shows that in 1913, when the crops in Germany were large, that country was still obliged to import \$233,000,000 worth of wheat, barley and corn. How huge an amount of food this represents may be gathered from the fact that last year's total crop of wheat in Canada was valued at \$196,000,000.

Germany did not pile up an extensive "war reserve." On the contrary, a review of the food supply in June drew the conclusion that there was not a surplus of grain in the country to meet the home consumption for the next two months, and a war reserve was being urged, though Germany was sure of a swift victory that this was not done. But now comes another factor. The 1914 crop proved to be a very poor one in Germany—not less than 140,000,000 bushels less than in the previous year. Added to this was a disastrously poor harvest in Hungary, which changed Austria-Hungary from a grain-exporting to a grain-importing state. All this would seem to indicate that the German Government's latest move is more significant than they care to own. It may mean that if the war is prolonged Germany will be facing absolute starvation long before the next Harvest.—Montreal Herald-Telegraph.

The case of Middleton vs. Macdonald was enlarged for one week by Mayor Pantier, this morning.

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