

GENERAL BATTLE IN PROGRESS BUT NO DEFINITE INFORMATION BEING GIVEN OUT

PART OF CANADIAN FORCE WILL DO GARRISON DUTY AT BERMUDA

All Cannot Go to Front at Once, but Every Man will Have a Chance to Help—Officers Command Must be Cool-headed Men of Action—Reorganizing Camp into Four.

Valcartier Camp, Que., Aug. 31.—From his charger, Col. Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, addressed about one thousand officers of the mobilized camp this afternoon. The officers formed three sides of a hollow square northwest of the headquarters, and from an elevated position the minister told them of some of the plans of the government in connection with the first contingent and another contingent that may be formed. He said that there were now over 25,000 soldiers encamped, and only about 22,000 would comprise the first division. If they could not go to front they must not be altogether disappointed. There would be use for them, and they would all have their chance some time.

COOL-HEADED MEN IN COMMAND. "It is necessary that we secure competent officers," said Col. Hughes. "Many have applied to me for commands, but I have refused even some of my personal friends. I want men for action. Action—that is the word. I want cool-headed men, because it is a terrible responsibility. I want men who can make quick decisions, whether they are in charge of a battery or a company." He stated that a part of the Canadian force would be used to garrison Bermuda and other places, while other regiments would be used in Canada, as lines of communication, or to act as a protective force here. Col. Williams, camp commandant, had been authorized to raise sixteen battalions, instead of twelve, because of the great number of volunteers. He said the present 25,000 men in camp were the best ever gathered in Canada. They had to get down to serious business and learn to shoot straight. "I can assure a man for almost anything if he can pick his man," said the Colonel. "Incompetent officers are worse than baggage, because they must be fed." The arrival in camp today were as follows: 6th Regiment, Vancouver, 352; 6th Field Company, Engineers, Vancouver, 124; 19th Company, C. A. S. C., 104; 103rd Regiment, Calgary, 515; other Calgary men, 10. Five Hundred Edmonton men arrived late tonight and will remain in the cars until tomorrow morning. An official statement was given out by Col. Williams, camp commandant, tonight, that the entire camp was being re-organized into four brigades instead of three. Up to the present there have been twelve batteries, but as Col. Hughes announced in his speech to the officers this afternoon, four additional batteries are to be established. With the re-organization of the camp four regiments, considered about the strongest numerically and in other respects, in Canada, will be made separate units. These are the Queen's Own Rifles, commanded by Lt. Col. Mercer, and the 48th Highlanders, commanded by Col. J. C. Currie, M. P., of Toronto, and the 5th Royal Highlanders and the 1st Royal Montreal Rifles of Montreal under command of Lt. Col. J. K. Ross and Lt. Col. Meligen, respectively. The fact that these regiments would remain intact was generally anticipated, but no definite information came out until tonight. Col. Hughes, accompanied by the general staff, visited Pinkney's Mountain, the tract of land across the river, covering 4,000 acres, which was recently purchased by the government as an addition to the camp site. Lt. Col. McBain, officer in charge of the grounds, was instructed to have the place cleared of farm houses and buildings within ten days. No serious illness was reported today. Many soldiers are sick as the result of inoculation against typhoid, but this is merely temporary. The medical examinations continue, about 9,000 soldiers having been inspected by a staff of physicians since the beginning of concentration. Of these about 10 per cent. have been pronounced unfit for active service and sent to their homes. Drilling was very stiff today, the dozen battalions being on parade ground from early morning till dark. As a matter of fact, the first battalion was given a parade at 7 and 9.30 tonight, which is the first occurrence of its kind at Valcartier. Over 1,100 troops were marched to the ranges and given a taste of tactical manoeuvres after dark. A huge bonfire was placed some distance away at the foot of a mountain to represent the position of the artillery of the enemy, and the battalion attacked in skirmish order. No man was allowed to speak or smoke, the discipline being the same as though it were actual warfare. Night attacks will be general, being by all battalions within a short time.

TROOPS IN REGION OF SPINCOURT AND LONGUYON HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CHECK CROWN PRINCE'S ARMY—ENEMY REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSSES NEAR MEUSE—IMPORTANT VICTORY FOR FRENCH IN GENERAL ENGAGEMENT NEAR ST. QUENLIN AND VERVINS.

Paris, Aug. 31, 5:55 a. m.—The following official statement was issued by the war office this evening: "The situation in general is actually as follows: "First—In Vosges and in Lorraine, it must be remembered our forces, which had taken the offensive at the beginning of the operations and driven the enemy outside of our frontiers, afterwards underwent serious checks. Before Sarrebourg, and in the region of Morhange, where they encountered very solid defensive works, our forces were obliged to fall back and to re-form, one part on Couronne De Nancy and the other on the French Vosges. "The Germans then assumed the offensive, but our troops, after having thrown them back upon their positions, resumed the offensive two days ago. This attack continues to make progress, although slowly. It is a veritable war of sieges, as each position occupied is immediately fortified. "This explains the slowness of our advance, which is, nevertheless, characterized each day by fresh local successes. "Second—in the region of Nancy and Southern Wevre, since the beginning of the campaign this section between Metz on the German side and Toul and Verdun on the French side has not been the theatre of important operations. "Third—in the direction of the Meuse, between Verdun and Metz, it will be remembered that the French forces took the offensive in the beginning towards Longwy, Neufchateau and Paillassat. The troops operating in the region of Spincourt and Longuey were able to check the enemy's army under the command of the German crown prince. "In the regions of Neufchateau and Paillassat, on the other hand, certain of our troops have received partial checks which obliged them to retire upon the Meuse without having their organization broken up. This retiring movement has compelled the forces operating in the neighborhood of Spincourt to withdraw also towards the Meuse. GENERAL ACTION BETWEEN THE MEUSE AND RETHEL. "During the last few days the enemy has endeavored to spread out from the Meuse with considerable forces, but by a vigorous counter offensive they were repelled with very great losses. In the meantime fresh forces of Germans advanced to the district of Rocroy (in Ardennes), marching in the direction of Rethel. Now a general action is taking place between the Meuse and Rethel, and it is still impossible to see definitely the issue of this. "Fourth operations in the north, the French and British forces originally took up positions in the Dinant and Charleroi country, and at Mons. They endured several repulses, and the forcing of the Meuse by the Germans near Givet, upon our flank, compelled our troops to retire. "The Germans seek continually to move toward the west. It was under these conditions that our English allies, attacked by the enemy in greatly superior numbers in the region of Le Cateau and Cambrai, have withdrawn toward the south, at the moment that our forces were operating in the district of Avesnes and Chimay. The retiring movement prolonged during several days. "In the meantime a general battle took place in the region of St. Quentin and Vervins, and at the same time in the Ham-Perennes district. This battle was marked by an important success by our right, where we have thrown back the Prussian guard, and the tenth army corps, into the Oise. "Owing to the progress of the German right wing, where our adversaries have united their best corps, we have had to mark a new retirement. (Continued on page 2)

NOBE FOR PATROL DUTY ALONG THE NORTH ATLANTIC

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Aug. 31.—The Canadian cruiser Nobe will leave the Halifax navy yards tomorrow. She is being placed under the control of the British Admiralty and will be used in the patrol service on the North Atlantic along with the other British cruisers.

HOME RULE CAUSES FLURRY IN COMMONS

Balfour's Pronouncement that Re-introduction would Cause Trouble Brings Outburst from Ministerialists. London, Aug. 31.—For a moment this afternoon the House of Commons turning from its country's danger, reverted to the old controversy over Ireland. Premier Asquith had announced that on re-assembling September 9, the government would proceed with the Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment bills, and John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists, in the House of Commons, expressed his hopes that if the government's proposal did not meet with the approval of the whole House, the government would not change its intention in regard to Home Rule. Former Premier A. J. Balfour immediately rose and said, that if the government introduced Home Rule, its course would arouse a torrent of abuse. This pronouncement brought an angry roar from the ministerialists, during which Mr. Balfour stood unmoved. When order was restored he said that to introduce the bill while many members were serving in the front would arouse a most heated controversy. "Again the ministerialists roared 'shame' which cry was met with angry shouts from the Nationalists and Ministerialists when the House proceeded with their other business.

DECISIVE VICTORY OVER GERMANS NEAR PERONNES, REPORT FROM ANTWERP

Fifty Thousand Germans Defeated by General Pau—A Great Victory for Russians over Austria at Zamosse, near Lublin, is Reported—General Engagement Between Germans and Allies Going on, but no Results Forthcoming. A long official statement is issued by the French war office, reviewing the operations in Belgium and along the French frontier. A new retirement by the allies is recorded, while at the same time the statement is optimistic with reference to the opposition which the British are offering to the German advance. No definite details are forthcoming regarding the general battle, which apparently is in progress all along the line. The French war minister has inspected the supplementary defensive works around Paris, which are being rapidly pushed forward in anticipation of a possible investment of the French capital. An Antwerp despatch credits General Pau with a victory over 50,000 Germans near Peronnes. Whether this is a new victory or one of which reference was made several days ago is not known. Queen Elizabeth and her children have arrived in England. According to official advice received at Washington, France is considering the advisability of moving the seat of government to Bordeaux. Great Britain has joined with France in objecting to the purchase by the United States of German liners in connection with the plan to build up an American merchant marine. It is reported by steamship officers arriving at Honolulu that British warships off Hong Kong are holding up all vessels, including those under the American flag, and removing Germans and Austrians bound to the scene of hostilities. The moratorium proclaimed at the outbreak of the war in Great Britain has been extended for another month. A Japanese destroyer, which ran ashore near Tsing Tau, China, was shelled by a German gunboat. The crew of the destroyer, however, had previously abandoned her.

CRUSHING DEFEAT OF AUSTRINIANS IN RUSSIAN POLAND.

Rome, Aug. 31, via London, Aug. 31, 9:55 p. m.—The Messagero publishes a telegram from Sofia, Bulgaria, which says the Austrians have suffered a crushing defeat at Zamosse, in Russian Poland, 50 miles southeast of Lublin. London, Aug. 31, 8:42 p. m.—Queen Elizabeth of Belgium with her children arrived in England tonight. VICTORY FOR FRENCH AT PERONNES REPORTED. London, Aug. 31, 10:05 p. m.—An Antwerp despatch to Reuters' Telegram Company says: "It is reported here that General Pau has won a brilliant victory over 50,000 Germans near Peronnes, in the Department of Somme. "The official press bureau, in an announcement this morning, says the Government has gratefully accepted an offer from the government of Quebec of four million pounds of cheese, and from the people of Alberta of a half a million bushels of oats for the use of the army. WAR RISKS RATE REDUCED. London, Aug. 31, 6:10 p. m.—The War Risks Insurance Committee announced a reduction today of ship cargo insurance to two guineas per cent. from the present rate, three guineas per cent. beginning tomorrow. San Francisco, Aug. 31.—The Japanese liner Chinyo Maru, which arrived here today, reports that on the night of August 29 she was chased for four hours by a German cruiser, but managed to escape by crowding on all speed. ADVANCE OF RUSSIANS SPREADS TERROR IN PRESSIA. Geneva, Switzerland, via Paris, Aug. 31, 8:30 p. m.—News received here from Berlin and Frankfurt, where refugees continue to arrive from East Prussia, is to the effect that the terror of the refugees is spreading to the towns along the railroad lines and that a great exodus from them is expected shortly. Refugees arriving here from Danzig, Eastern Prussia, say the advance guard of the Russian Cossacks has been sent in that neighborhood. The destruction of Louvain, Belgium, has created much indignation among the Americans in Switzerland, many of whom know the city well. It is reported there were several Americans, as well as English and Swiss victims in Louvain. TERRIBLE FIGHTING IN LORRAINE. Paris, Aug. 31, 8:37 p. m.—Seven hundred wounded soldiers arrived today at Vichy. Some of them said the fighting in Lorraine was most violent. A new convoy of wounded also arrived at Clermont-Ferrand. The surgeons there state that eighty per cent. of the wounded will be able to rejoin their regiments before October. Already sixty of the wounded have left Clermont-Ferrand for the front. An ovation was accorded them before their departure. A despatch to the Havas Agency says that a group of German prisoners, among them fifteen Alsations, arrived at Castres, Department of Tarn, today, and that a patriotic demonstration occurred when the Alsations, passing through the crowded streets, shouted "long live France." ROUNDING UP AUSTRIAN AND GERMAN RESERVISTS IN SOUTH AFRICA. Cape Town via London, Aug. 31.—The process of rounding up Austrian and German reservists from the different parts of the Union of South Africa and holding them as prisoners of war, has been proceeding for a fortnight. Some 8,000 of them are now detained in a special camp at Johannesburg. Prince Salm-Salm and several other officers have been given special quarters in Bloemfontein. Prince Salm-Salm is a captain in the Prussian cavalry. BANK OF OTTAWA VOTES \$25,000 TO PATRIOTIC FUND. Ottawa, Aug. 31.—The directors of the Bank of Ottawa today voted \$25,000 to the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

GERMAN SHIPS TAKEN BY BRITISH VALUED AT OVER 350 MILLIONS

London, Aug. 31.—An analysis of the attack on the enemy's shipping since the war began shows that 196 German and thirteen Austrian ships have been captured and taken to British ports, while thirty-four German ships were seized by the Belgians at Antwerp. The largest German ships captured by the British have a combined net tonnage of nearly half a million. The captures comprise several very valuable cargoes. The value of the ships captured by the British is estimated at \$350,000,000. Of 8,256 replies received in answer to a government enquiry as to the proposed extension of the moratorium, 3,863 were for the extension, and 4,393 against. Those most strong for the extension are bankers and stock brokers. Generally, London favors the extension, while the provinces are against it. London's continental connections are causing the city to be hardest hit by the recent dislocation of credit.

GERMAN CASUALTIES 20 TO 1 AS COMPARED WITH ALLIES' LOSSES

Paris, Aug. 31.—An officer, who was wounded in the engagement in the north, declares that without exaggeration the German casualties are compared with those of the allies, bear a ratio of twenty to one. This was due to the charges of massed infantry in an endeavor to break through the lines. The three inch guns did excellent service, and the machine guns in the ranks that succeeded each other, until the field was covered with dead and wounded. A despatch to the Havas Agency from St. Petersburg says the workmen in that city have addressed a petition to the government, asking an interdiction on the sale of alcoholic beverages during the war. The despatch adds that the Gallian prisoners say that Austria has issued a manifesto, declaring that Serbia has been crushed and annexed.

ASQUITH TO APPEAL FOR MORE RECRUITS.

London, Sept. 1.—1:50 a. m.—Premier Asquith and Arthur J. Balfour, one of the leaders of the opposition in the House of Commons, are to speak in the historic Guild Hall in the city of London this week, in an effort to encourage recruiting. The Guild Hall will be used as a recruiting station.

GETTING THE PRIZE COURTS ORGANIZED

British Embassy and U. S. State Department Working Together to Expedite Awarding of Spoils of War. Washington, Aug. 31.—British embassy officials are in constant communication with the state department with a view to expediting the organization of English prize courts and simplifying the machinery for their operation. Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador, called at the department today in this connection, it is understood. The British government is anxious to have the courts begin sittings that neutral commerce, which may be part of the cargoes of prizes, may be returned promptly to its legal owners, and the American government shares in the British desire for simplicity and expedition. In cases of capture at sea, according to international law, it becomes the first duty of the captor to convey the prize to a port of its own or one of its allies, for adjudication by special tribunals, which may sit in the ports or territory of a belligerent, or in those of an ally, but not in neutral ports. The function of these courts is solely to determine whether the capture

VERA CRUZ PORT IS CLOSED

On Order of Provisional President Carranza—Withheld U. S. Recognition Until Factional Leaders Come to Terms. Washington, Aug. 31.—Provisional President Carranza has ordered the port of Vera Cruz closed, according to official advice today to the American government. In some quarters there was a disposition of resentment against the continued occupancy of Vera Cruz by American troops, but state department officials did not share this view. Paul Fuller, a personal representative of President Wilson, is due in Mexico City tomorrow, to discuss with the government there, questions relating to the American occupancy of Vera Cruz as well as differences between Carranza and Villa. It is generally understood that recognition will be withheld until a complete agreement between the two chieftains has been reached, and arrangements made for a constitutional election.

HON. ROBT. ROGERS' SON VOLUNTEERS

Winnipeg, Aug. 31.—Among the young men to enlist today in the 34th Fort Garry Horse is Robert Rogers, son of the minister of public works. At a meeting of the officials of the Canadian Northern Railway, it was decided to ask permission to form a corps among the employees. Every head of a department was in attendance, and it is expected that five hundred men can be secured.

TAKE OFF RECRUITS BOUND FOR WAR ZONE

Honolulu, Aug. 31.—Officers of the Pacific Mail liner China, which arrived here today en route to San Francisco from the Orient, reported British warships off Hong Kong are boarding all vessels, including those under the American flag, and removing Germans and Austrians bound for the scene of hostilities. According to the officers of the China, both the Manchuria of the same line, which also flies the American flag, and the China, were boarded. From the Manchuria sixty reservists were taken to St. Petersburg Island. Two passengers on board the China, who claimed Swiss citizenship, were released.

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