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PROBS--
Senate Reading Room
11 April 1916

SIR SAM HUGHES MUST ANSWER CHARGES

British Greatly Increase Length of Front Held in France GERMANS SECURE FOOTING IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF MALANCOURT VILLAGE

BRITISH ARMY EXTENDS LINE TO QUARTER OF WEST FRONT

About One Hundred and Twenty-Five Miles Now Held From Somme to Yser as Result of New Arrangements.

LONDON, March 29.—The official communications having revealed the fact that the British armies have taken over a length of the line previously held by the French, says Reuter's correspondent at the British headquarters in France, "I am permitted to make references to it."
"The new dispositions were carried out with great skill and secrecy and the result of them has been the release of large French forces who were manifestly of great value in another area. At present the British are probably holding something like one-fourth of the entire length of the western front, extending in an unbroken line from the Yser to the Somme."
"Altho the hour of the British army may be at hand, it is not yet. Nor is there any reason to believe that the Germans will succeed by their attacks on Verdun in upsetting the prearranged strategy of the great coming offensive."

THREE STEAMERS SUNK, ANOTHER WAS ATTACKED

Two British and One Dutch Vessel Are Reported Lost.

LONDON, March 29.—Three more steamers were today reported sunk, while a fourth was attacked.
The British steamer Lavinia Westall struck a mine Tuesday afternoon and foundered, but the crew was saved.
The last report of the Lavinia Westall shows that she sailed from Savona, Italy, March 9 for Almeria, Spain.
The British steamer Kilbride was sunk by an enemy submarine March 27, says an announcement made by Lloyd's this evening.
The Kilbride was a vessel of 3712 tons. She was built in 1901 and owned by Connell Bros., Limited, of Glasgow. Available shipping records do not show the recent movements of this steamer.
The steamer Berwindale was attacked today but not sunk.
The Berwindale, a vessel of 5232 tons, sailed from Galveston Feb. 24 for Avonmouth, according to available shipping records.
Another Dutch steamship, the Duveland, 1297 tons, has been sunk. All the crew were saved.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

ABOUT one-quarter of the 500 miles of front in France is now held by the British army, according to Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters. The French were recently relieved from the holding of a great stretch of line, and secured the release of large forces which were of great value in "another area." The British line now extends unbroken from the Yser to the Somme, as was deducible from the official communique of the war office issued several days ago. The new dispositions, says the correspondent, were carried out with great skill and secrecy. "Altho the hour of the British army may be at hand," says he, "it is not yet. Nor is there any reason to believe that the Germans, by their attacks on Verdun, will succeed in upsetting the prearranged strategy of the great coming offensive."

Confident in their superiority of men and munitions, the British and the French do not propose to allow themselves to be drawn out in a premature disclosure of what the Germans would like to know of their coming intentions. Whether the heavy artillery work which has been called for in the defence of Verdun has depleted in any respect the allied store of munitions cannot be judged by outsiders. The only persons who know the actual situation as to the shell supply are three or four men of the British and French general staffs. But while the Germans have been firing away vast quantities of shells in their many offensives to secure a decision in Russia, and later in Serbia, and have been munitioning Turkey, the British and the French have been hoarding up shells for many months, and the Russians have had their factories going at full blast also, so, after all, the Germans will be forced to stand up to a volume of fire double their own when the fighting becomes real.

British headquarters at the western front announced last night
(Continued on Page 2, Columns 2 and 3.)

Greece Lodges Protest With Central Powers

Air Raid on Saloniki Has Created Bitter Animosity—Consuls of U. S., Spain and Roumania Wish to Leave.

LONDON, March 27.—A cable from Athens tonight says the Greek Government has protested to the central powers against the air bombardment of Saloniki last Monday. The despatch adds: "Le Patria says that the consuls of the U. S., Spain and Roumania have asked their governments for authority to leave Saloniki with their respective nationals owing to the insecurity of the place."
The mayor of Saloniki has telegraphed King Constantine asking that the population of the city be protected against future raids. The funerals of the victims of the aerial attack were marked by shouts of "Down with the barbarians and criminals."
One of the bombs fell in front of the house of Gen. Mosechopoulos, commander of the Greek forces in Saloniki.

RUSSIANS TAKE WOOD WEST OF LAKE NAROCZ

General Spring Thaw on Entire Russian Front Hampers Operations.

MARSHES ARE FLOODED

Melting of Snow on Roads Makes Bringing Up of Forces Difficult.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, March 29.—Owing to the commencement of the spring thaw along the entire Russian front from south to north, the marshes and lake regions are inundated and the roads are being rendered extraordinarily difficult for the moving of troops and artillery, according to latest official word from Russia, which also conveyed the intelligence that the Russians have dislodged the Germans from the southern portion of the wood south of Mokritza, west of Lake Narocz, and by their fire they repulsed counter attacks launched later. Russian detachments operating near Somino Village ejected the Germans from their trenches and forced them to flee over the Djinski Canal in this region. German attempts to approach the Russian trenches on the River Strips failed. Fighting continues in the Dvinsk region and violent artillery fire is being kept up in some places south of Dvinsk.

FORCED SERVICE PROBLEM STILL BEFORE CABINET

Asquith's Absence Defers Pronouncement and Carson Displays Impatience.

MANY WORKERS FREED

Measures Taken to Conciliate Married Men Do Not Satisfy Critics.

LONDON, March 29.—An important pronouncement from the government on the vexed question of the enlistment of married men was expected in the house of commons today. The cabinet met in council, before the house assembled, to discuss the matter, and in some quarters it was expected that radical decisions would be made.
As, however, Premier Asquith, Foreign Secretary Grey, War Secretary Kitchener and Minister of Munitions David Lloyd George, have not yet returned from Paris, where they took part in the conference of the allies, this was not possible, and the settlement of the question as to whether it will be possible to avoid resort to obligatory service for married as well as single men, was necessarily postponed.
Fear Ministerial Crisis.
The pivotal point of the situation is (Continued on Page 7, Column 5.)

CLYDE WORKERS' STRIKE IS NOT YET SETTLED

Many Refuse to Return Unless Fomenters of Trouble Are Liberated.

GLASGOW, March 29.—Yesterday's hope that the strike organized by the Clyde workers committee would be settled, was not fulfilled today. Large numbers of the men are still out and refuse to return to work unless the government liberates the leaders of the movement, who were placed under arrest for quitting work.
Uproarious scenes were enacted in the city hall tonight, where a meeting of the strikers was held. The proceedings lasted four hours, and the meeting broke up in disorder and without the men having reached a decision concerning the resumption of work.

BASILICA AT PERUGIA IS ROBBED OF PICTURES

Thieves Entered and Decamped With Paintings of Great Value.
PARIS, March 29.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Perugia, Italy, says thieves entered the sacristy of St. Peter's Basilica last night and stole nine pictures of great value. An investigation of the theft is being made.

FOE TOOK PART OF VILLAGE BY GRAND ATTACK

Footings Gained in Redoubt and Two Houses Captured at Malancourt.

IN AVOCOURT REDOUBT

French Retain Captured Position and Beat Off Counter-Attacks.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, March 29.—While the Germans suffered the repulse of three of their counter attacks which they launched this afternoon to regain the redoubt which had been captured from them in the Avocourt wood this morning, they succeeded in gaining a footing in an advanced work and in occupying two houses in Malancourt Village in the course of an attack with heavy effectives today. The bombardment was continued with violence against the Avocourt-Bathincourt front today while French heavy artillery made targets of Avocourt and the Malancourt wood while the attacking was continued. All attempts of the Germans to push their advance beyond the redoubt and two houses which they reached have been arrested by the French fire.
"Some artillery squalls," is the way the French describe the operations east of the Meuse and north of Verdun. These squalls extended to the Woivre as far as Les Eparges.
By exploding a mine north of Four de Paris in the Argonne the French blew up a German grenadier post and shelter and shattered German works. Large German convoys were disabled.
(Continued on Page 7, Column 6.)

GASOLINE AND OAKUM FOUND IN BURNING HOUSE

Seven Cans of Explosive, With Scheme to Spread Flames, on Brunswick Avenue.

POLICE WORKING ON CASE

Fire Chief Corbett Never Saw More Deliberate Attempt to Burn a Building.

One of the most deliberate attempts to burn a house ever made in Toronto was discovered at an early hour this morning by firemen who answered a call for an alarm of fire in a vacant house at 45 Brunswick avenue. The owner of the house is unknown, but the Bessar estate are the agents handling the property.
District Chief Corbett and his men arrived at the scene of the fire a few minutes after the alarm was rung in, as they had to go only from College street fire hall, one block away. When they arrived the entire stairway was burned away, and the flames were spreading thru the house with great rapidity.
In different rooms of the house, under the cellar stairs, in closets and cupboards, the firemen found seven cans and sealers filled with gasoline, with oakum leading from one to the other. Other cans with gasoline had exploded and caused the flames to spread thru the rooms of the house, but the firemen succeeded in stopping the fire.
The damage done to the house was only \$1500, but the fact that the firemen arrived on the scene so quickly probably saved an entire block of houses.
The police were notified and several detectives started to work on the case this morning.

HEAVY SELLING IN MEN'S SPRING HATS

The touch of spring weather during the last two days has created a regular rush to the well-known Dineen store at 140 Yonge street.
The vogue of spring hats has been unpeaked and they are proving immensely popular.
The vogue of spring hats, 1916, decrees fairly evenly between soft and stiff styles, and the demand is in much the same proportion for American and English makes. You can reverse your decision as to the hat for you till you see our display.

HUGHES ORDERED TO RETURN BORDEN REMAINS AT OTTAWA NO CAUCUS YET IS CALLED

GERMANS LOST FOUR PLANES AT SALONIKI

Aviators in All Met Death When Aircraft Were Brought Down.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
LONDON, March 29.—Altho an official statement issued at Paris mentions two German aeroplanes only as having been brought down in today's air raid, a later despatch from Saloniki says four aeroplanes were brought to earth. Two of the machines were shot down as they tried to approach the water-front, while the others were brought to earth later during a chase by French machines. The aviators in all four of the machines were killed.

WASHINGTON PREPARING CASE AGAINST GERMANY

Formidable Indictment Promised Unless Berlin Answers Queries Satisfactorily.

TABULATION OF FACTS

Entire Subject is Likely to Be Brought to Clear-Cut Issue.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The accumulation of circumstantial evidence indicating that Germany has engaged upon a campaign of submarine warfare which has no regard for the rights of American citizens traveling on merchant ships of belligerent nationality, the administrations has considered one of the most serious situations which has confronted the U. S. since the beginning of the war in Europe.
Every agency open to the state department tonight was being employed in an effort to gather an unimpeachable array of facts regarding the explosion which damaged the British channel steamer Sussex, the sinking of the British ships Manchester Engineer, Englishman, Eagle Point and the Dutch steamer Tubantia, and the alleged firing of a torpedo at the French passenger ship Patria. All of these ships carried American citizens, and all apparently were attacked in violation of Germany's recently renewed assurances to the U. S.
Strong Arrangement.
The next step of the U. S. is said authoritatively to have been determined upon. Unless Germany, in reply to the inquiries made by the U. S. thru Ambassador Gerard, makes some statement to cause the state department to change its present intention, it is understood that all the recent aggravating incidents will be combined into one general formidable indictment which will bring the entire subject to a clear-cut issue.

COMMITTEE TO CARE FOR GRAVES OF SOLDIERS

Permanent Memorials Will Not Be Erected While the War Continues.

LONDON, March 29.—A national committee has been appointed by the government for the making of permanent provision for the care of graves of officers and men who have fallen in France and Belgium. The Prince of Wales, the president, decided that no permanent memorials would be erected in any British military cemetery during the continuance of hostilities or until the military situation should appear to justify the giving of the necessary sanction. All requests for information regarding the graves of officers and men who have fallen in France and Belgium should continue to be addressed to the director of graves registration, British general headquarters.

MINNEAPOLIS NOT SUNK WHEN HIT BY TORPEDO

Malta Reports Efforts Are Being Made to Tow Liner Into Port.
LONDON, March 29.—The British steamer Minneapolis, which was torpedoed without warning in the Mediterranean last Wednesday, remained afloat according to a Reuter despatch from Malta, and attempts were being made to tow her into port.
About 200 of the crew of the Minneapolis were landed at Malta and 10 men are missing.

Cable Sent to Minister of Militia Calls For Statement in Reply to Kite Charges and, Rumor Says, Contains Peremptory Command For His Return—Sir Robert Borden Cancels New York Engagement of Long Standing—Twenty Conservative Members in Open Revolt Against the Government.

By a Staff Reporter.
OTTAWA, March 29.—There were few members in the chamber of the house of commons today and by common consent political controversy has been avoided. The afternoon sitting was taken up with a perfunctory discussion of the proposed increased tariff on apples, and this evening considerable time has been occupied in passing a bill to increase the salary of the chief justice of Saskatchewan from \$7,000 to \$8,000, a year. The Liberals are sitting tonight, watching and waiting for developments in the strange political situation.

Tonight there are at least 20 Conservative members of Parliament in a state of more or less open revolt against the government. The moment lacks leadership and organization, but it is none the less a force to be reckoned with.

The actual news of the day may thus be summarized:
1.—Sir Robert Borden has cancelled his engagement to speak in New York City tomorrow night. This engagement is of long standing and his inability to keep it must be a source of regret to the prime minister. That he cannot leave the capital at this crisis is everywhere admitted.

2.—A cable has been sent to Major-General Sir Sam Hughes; it is believed to have followed a conference between leading members of the government at the prime minister's office in the east block, which lasted until nearly daylight this morning. The cable advises General Hughes of the charges made last night in the house of commons by Mr. Kite and calls for a statement from him in reply. It is rumored that the message went even further and contained a peremptory command that the minister return to Ottawa.

3.—Up to ten o'clock tonight no call had been issued for a government caucus. This statement was made positively by chief whip John Stanfield. That such a call may go out is possible, but the general impression seems to be that the party conference will go over until next week, probably Tuesday.

The demands of the so-called insurgents are pretty well known. They were thus stated tonight by a prominent member of the Ontario delegation.

"We have the highest respect," he said, "for the prime minister and unshaken confidence in the rectitude of his intentions. We believe that he will do what is best for the party and the country; the trouble is that he does not realize as we do what our constituents are saying. This fuse scandal has involved a committee for which our government may not be responsible. We are not saying that the minister of militia cannot satisfactorily explain the charges and insinuations brought against him. What we do say is that he should not have absented himself from the house and the country at this time and we demand his immediate return to Ottawa. If he can clear himself we will be only too pleased. If he cannot, the prime minister must deal with the situation."

Looking back over the occurrences last night it is fairly evident that Mr. Kite by a speech merely touched off the bomb that was about due to explode in any event. Strong supporters of the government, have been expressing themselves freely about the shell committee for some time past. They have with few exceptions been unsparing in their denunciations of Col. J. Wesley Allison. They have also, many of them, been nursing grievances against the minister of militia.

Had it not been for the Kite speech, however, the situation might have been bridged over until another session of parliament. The charges made last night in the house came as a sudden surprise to the rank and file of the government supporters. They commenced talking among themselves on the floor of the house before the speech was concluded. They talked quite openly in the corridors and it was pretty well understood at midnight that unless Sir Thomas White could satisfactorily answer the indictment many of the Conservative members would refuse to come into the chamber for the division, or would vote against the government.

The minister of finance was not able to meet the charges. He spoke under a severe strain to a silent house. One by one the members behind him left the chamber. Several members of the government were summoned to a conference and finally an ultimatum was sent to the prime minister. Not all of the members more or less in revolt are moved by the same causes. As has been said they have no definite leadership or organization. Their spokesman would probably be R. B. Bennett of Calgary, but it is well known that the revolt was well under way before either Mr. Bennett or Mr. Nickle of Kingston knew anything about it.

The disaffection is pretty widespread and its spirit is fairly well expressed by the interview given to the papers this evening by Hon. Andrew Broder. Not all may go as far as Mr. Broder, but it is stated that among those who feel that an explanation is due from the minister of militia and that some investigation is required, are Clarence Jameson, of Nova Scotia; A. A. McLean, of Prince Edward Island, and G. W. Fowler, of Kings, N.B. Mr. Stevens, of Vancouver, is said also to be in sympathy with the position of R. B. Bennett.

Hon. Andrew Broder, W. F. Nickle and W. B. Northrup, are prominently mentioned among those who feel that some investigation is necessary. Other Ontario Conservative members said to be in sympathy with them include Col. John A. Currie, Donald Sutherland and Mr. Wilson, of Wentworth. Others less prominently identified with the movement but said to be dissatisfied with the expressed intention of the government to refuse an investigation include Mr. Marshall, of Elgin; Lalor, of Haldimand; Wilcox, of Essex, and Captain Tom Wallace, of Centre York.

(Editorial Comments on Situation at Ottawa Will be Found on Page 6.)