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FRENCH REPULSE GERMAN ATTACKS AT VERDUN

Crown Prince Again Suffers Defeats Despite Large Number of Troops Employed—Raiding Party Driven Off By the British—U. S. Artillery Does Effective Work

With the French Armies in France, Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press)—The armies of the German Crown Prince before Verdun since February 2 have suffered constant defeats in seven vain raids on French positions on both sides of the Meuse. Although large bodies of troops were employed at times, not a single permanent advantage has been gained.

On Feb. 2, the Germans made three separate assaults on the Cuvier Wood, on the right bank of the Meuse, but were hurled back on each occasion by the French, who dashed to meet them with bayonets and hand grenades, killing large numbers. North of Hill 344, on Feb. 3, five German columns advanced in a thick fog, after a heavy preliminary bombardment and succeeded in entering the French front line momentarily. The enemy was driven out in vigorous hand-to-hand fighting, and again suffered severely.

A Baden division, preceded by shock units, assaulted the French line at the same place on Feb. 4. They gained a footing in the trenches for a few minutes and then were chased off after needlessly sacrificing many lives and leaving some prisoners. On Feb. 6, in the vicinity of Fosse Wood another attack was made at dawn after a short and sharp artillery preparation by Hanoverian troops and a relief division. They succeeded in reaching the French barbed wire and in occupying an element of the French positions. They were driven out almost immediately and pursued by the French, leaving many dead and a number of captives.

Between Semourey and Hill 344, on Feb. 7, another German assault was repulsed with still more losses. This sector is composed mainly of positions formed of groups of shell craters organized since the French gained their great victory last fall.

Inquiry Into Defeat. Rome, Feb. 9.—The Italian defeat of last October on the Isonzo front and the circumstances attending it are to be inquired into by a committee named by the cabinet.

This announcement, in the shape of a note issued by the Stefani News Agency, comes after the appointment of a committee to inquire into the military events of the end of October, 1917, the cabinet decided that General Cadorna, former chief of staff, General Porro, under chief of the general staff, and the chief of the general staff, should be inquired into by a committee with all the facts likely to be useful to it.

London, Feb. 9.—(Delayed)—The official statement of the war office tonight reads: "An enemy raiding party attempted to approach our line this morning south-east of Arras, but was driven off by our line. Shortly before dawn another party raided one of our posts in the neighborhood of Oppy; one of our men is missing. The enemy's patrols were somewhat more active than usual during the night in the sector north of Lens. There is nothing further to report."

WELCOME FOR SURVIVORS FROM THE TUSCANIA

Party Of American Soldiers Reach Belfast MISSING NUMBER 116

Belfast, Feb. 9.—Between 100 and 200 American soldiers from the Tuscania arrived here today. They were met at the train by a battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment, headed by the regimental band, which escorted them to the temporary quarters. Crowds of citizens assembled at the station and in the streets and greeted the Americans with enthusiasm. The survivors appeared to be little the worse of their terrible experience, except for the mud and soot which they wore. Many had British army coats.

Amsterdam, Feb. 9.—The steamship Frieland (Friesland), loaded with grain today by an American port and presumably bound for Rotterdam, was torpedoed yesterday, after being bombarded. Sixteen were wounded, according to the Handelsblad. Twenty-nine survivors were landed at Terschelling this morning.

The Swedish steamer Frieland, of 4,900 tons, arrived in an Atlantic port on January 18. She was owned in Copenhagen. A call for help. An Atlantic port, Feb. 9.—A call for immediate assistance from a steamer, the Frieland, was received at the Cape Race station and sent to the Admiralty. The steamer was carrying a cargo of grain and flour, and was being towed by a tug. The cargo was badly damaged.

London, Feb. 9.—The official statement from British headquarters in France and Belgium today reads: "The enemy's patrols were somewhat more active than usual during the night in the sector north of Lens. There is nothing further to report."

With U. S. Army. With the American Army in France, Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press)—The American artillery continued hammering German positions with marked success last night and today. A destructive fire on enemy buildings and works was maintained.

Weather Report. Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, Director of meteorological service.

Spencer-Chapman. A pretty wedding took place in St. George's church on Thursday afternoon at 4 p. m. when Miss Vivian Mabel Chapman was married to Mr. W. H. Sampson by Rev. W. H. Sampson.

CAN A HOHENZOLLERN CHANGE HIS SPOTS?



Peace Agreement With The Ukrainian Rada

Copenhagen, Feb. 9.—A peace agreement has been signed by representatives of the Central Powers and of the Ukrainian Rada, a semi-official Berlin telegram announces. CONFIRMED BY BERLIN

London, Feb. 9.—The peace agreement between the Central Powers and Ukraine was signed at 2 o'clock this morning, according to an official Berlin statement as forwarded from Copenhagen by the Exchange Telegraph Company.

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 9.—The commission to inquire into the pilotage system of Halifax harbor, opened its session at the court house this morning. The chairman, Thomas Robb, explained that the object of the commission was to get information in connection with the pilotage system here, at St. John and at Sydney.

Pilot Mackey is optimistic. Halifax, Feb. 9.—Pilot Francis Mackey, who was recently arrested on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the Mont Blanc-Inco collision and subsequent explosion, has been relieved from duty as a pilot here. Pilot Mackey yesterday made application to the Halifax pilotage commission for release during the trial and his request was granted. In his application he assures the commission that he is "very optimistic as to the result of trial and confident that a proper inquiry before a jury of this county will lead to his complete vindication and restoration to duty."

Fraser Memorial Hall Dedicated. Fredericton, Feb. 9.—David Yeomans, a well known resident of South Devon, died at his home last night after a lingering illness at the age of seventy-five years. He is survived by his widow, one son, Harland of South Devon, three daughters, Mrs. George Booker of Medicine Hat, Alberta; Mrs. William Emmons of South Arlington, Maine; and Mrs. John Tait of Lewiston, Maine. The funeral will take place Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the New Brunswick funeral home at 100 St. John street. Rev. A. D. McLeod. Interment will be made at Sunny Brook cemetery.

Five Lives Lost in New York Fire. New York, Feb. 9.—Four men and one woman were burned to death early today in a fire that damaged a sail loft, boarding house in Pearl street, near East River. The dead are C. Russell, 42 years old, proprietor of the boarding house; Mrs. Caspar Russell; Charles Bennett, 61, and two unidentified sailors. Many men jumped from the upper floor windows of the fourth story building and were taken to a hospital, where it was said they might die. The fire started under a staircase on the first floor, shutting off escape from the sleeping rooms on the upper floors.

GENERAL MASSACRE PLAN WAS DEFEATED BY TWO VOTES

Red Guard in Finland Seriously Discussed Slaughter of All Members of Capitalist Class—One Report Says Slaughter Has Commenced as Guards Have Been Unable to Restrain The People

London, Feb. 9.—Scandinavians from Finland, according to an Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Copenhagen, report that the Red Guard government in Finland a few days ago seriously discussed the question of arranging a "St. Bartholomew's night." It is said they planned to kill all members of the capitalist class over eight years of age. The project was rejected only by two votes.

The massacre of St. Bartholomew resulting in the killing of more than 30,000 persons, members of the Huguenot faith in 1572. The principal victim was Admiral Coligny and the massacre began in Paris on the night of August 24-25. Many Killed. London, Feb. 9.—According to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen, a special correspondent of the Berlingske Tidende, who succeeded in escaping from Helsinki, sends to his paper a wireless report, which was not allowed to pass the Red Guard censorship, in which he says that the Red Guards have made a frightful slaughter of the masses of Finnish people and have been plundering and killing in a most brutal manner.

Refugees Reach Stockholm. Stockholm, Feb. 9.—Constantine Diamandis, the Roumanian minister to Petrograd who is now at Haparanda says that the diplomatic missions of the great powers will soon have to leave Petrograd. Foreign Minister, Trotsky had telegraphed to Petrograd ordering that Diamandis be sent back to Petrograd, but Trotsky's orders are not being obeyed in Turca now.

British Food Controller Announces Rationing Plans for Civilians—Cards Will Be Issued. London, Feb. 9.—After much cogitation over various proposals, Baron Rhonda, the food controller, last night issued a meat rationing card, which gives each civilian approximately one pound of meat weekly. The system adopted is somewhat complex. The meat card, available for twenty weeks, provides for four coupons weekly, three of which entitle the holder to purchase uncooked butchers' meat, including pork. Each coupon represents the value of a free pound. The fourth coupon entitles the holder to purchase bacon, ham, poultry, game, rabbits and preserved or prepared meats in an amount equivalent to five ounces of butchers' meat.

NEW MINISTRY OF SHIPPING. St. John's, Nfld., Feb. 9.—So critical has the shipping situation become in Newfoundland that the government has decided to create a ministry of shipping, to exercise control until the end of the year. The constantly dwindling tonnage due to the requisitioning of vessels for war work and to losses from submarines and storms has seriously affected the trade of the colony. Matters were brought to a climax recently when the British admiralty notified the Newfoundland government that it would be necessary to reduce the tonnage supplied for the colony's needs to one-third of what has been available during the last year.

OTHER UNIONS STAND BY GOVT. London, Feb. 9.—A private conference Friday between Sir Auckland Geddes, minister of national service, and trade union representatives with reference to the government's man-power proposals failed to end the dispute about the position of the engineers, but elicited a clear statement from the other unions that they were not committed to any exceptional treatment and that a combing out scheme must apply equally to all.

ALBERTA CABINET CHANGES. Edmonton, Alta, Feb. 8.—Norman L. Hardy, acting deputy minister of railways and telephones, has been appointed to succeed the former deputy minister, W. J. Harmer, who this week was appointed to a senatorship for Alberta, together with the late leader of the opposition, Edward Michener. George Headley, member for Okotoks, was selected as sessional leader of the opposition.

LIVE ISSUES IN COMING ELECTION

Many Candidates for Civic Honors in Charlottetown—Poices Exclude Extension of Municipal Ownership. Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 9.—The biennial civic elections for mayor, eight councilmen and nine school board members take place on Feb. 18. The number of candidates is the largest in the history of the city. There are three running for mayor, nineteen for councilors and five for water and sewer commissioners.

The candidates for mayor are C. D. Wright, mortician and a member of the Maritime Undertakers' Association; Henry Smith, clerk of the county court and chairman of the school board, and John McNevin, who has been in the council for the last six years. The principal difference in the policy of these gentlemen, so that their election is more a contest between men than between measures.

It is a healthy sign of the times to see candidates for the council in Ward 5, the largest ward of the city, forming the northern portion. As the harbor along the south side Ward 5 is naturally the growing ward, the candidates promise to give the workingman a higher wage and to practice economy consistent with efficiency. Several favor public ownership of the electric light, medical and dental inspection of public schools, inspection of food, and meat supplied for local consumption, the disposal of garbage by the modern method of incineration, the encouragement of the establishing of new industries, urging the dominion government to build freight cars in our railway shops.

This year the city had a deficit of \$3,000. The water and sewer departments have been operated so efficiently, coming out with a surplus, that it is as suggested that the city buy out a present plant of the Charlottetown Light & Power Company and operate it themselves. Or, falling to come to terms with the company, to build a plant of its own.

There will be several matters to engage the attention of the new council, the financial situation being the most important. Charlottetown's credit stands high, her bonds having been sold at par, but in view of the increase in wages and material there must be additional revenue provided. An effort will be made to have the provincial government pay over at least a portion of the income tax collected from the citizens of Charlottetown. But as the government needs every dollar it can gather together and as twenty-eight out of thirty members represent rural seats it is hardly likely that they will be disposed to grant Charlottetown's request.

THE ARGENTINE'S GERMAN POLICY

Rumored Shake-up Believed to Indicate That Sterner Attitude Will Be Adopted By Republic. Buenos Aires, Feb. 8.—Rumors are current in government circles, and apparently they are well founded, that President Irigoyen on the adjournment of congress will relieve Foreign Minister and Minister of Agriculture Pueyrredon of the portfolio of agriculture and give him sole charge of the foreign relations of the republic. It is asserted also that the president will replace the minister of war and marine with officers of the army and navy.

The belief is expressed in official circles that the turning over to Pueyrredon of the foreign ministry will end the alleged dissension between President Irigoyen and Pueyrredon which is said to have existed with Argentine's national policies as carried out by Pueyrredon, especially regarding the claims of the republic against Germany.

Government circles anticipate with interest the possibility of an official sign office that a sterner attitude toward Germany will be adopted.

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