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VERDUN BATTLE RAGES ONCE MORE; BRITISH GAIN IN WEST; VOTE IN SENATE AND HOUSE TO SUPPORT WILSON'S POLICY

STRONGEST EFFORT ONLY WILL RAISE ARMY BIG ENOUGH

Lord Derby Declares Large Number of Exceptions Spoiled His Scheme

MANY SLACKERS CHANGING TRADES

Agriculture Never So Popular Before—Women and Invalided Men Should Do Farm Work, is Plea—Grave Warning From Recruiting Chairman

London, March 3—A proclamation will be issued Sunday calling up on April 7 married men of the ages between 19 and 27 years.

London, March 2—Keen disappointment as to the results of recruiting under the voluntary system proposed by him was expressed in the house of lords today by the Earl of Derby, former chief of the recruiting service.

The earl laid the chief blame for the failure to achieve the full results he had aimed at to the easy exemption of single men belonging especially to the starred trades—men required for work on necessities required by the government and agriculturists. He made an emphatic plea to the government to prevent bachelors of military age from evading military service by transferring themselves to specialized occupations, and declaring that a strong effort was necessary to obtain a requisite number of fighting men, without whom the empire might fall.

Agriculturists, the Earl of Derby said, were the principal class to avail themselves of exemption under the plea that they were indispensable for the production of foodstuffs, and that such exemptions should be watched. Baron Harris, who has large farm interests, expressed the opinion that no single man was necessary on a farm.

No figures as to the result of the recruiting campaign were given, but it was announced that 140,000 married men had attested under the Earl of Derby's scheme since the beginning of the year. The government promises to revise the list of reserved trades with a view to releasing more men for the army.

Transferring Trades to Escape.

"The government must be prepared to take strong measures if we are to get the number of men anticipated and necessary," said Lord Derby. "Many men undoubtedly are entering the excepted trades in order to escape military service, and the government must take steps to get them out of those trades and to replace them by women, or men returned from the front, or unfit for military service."

A further suggestion from Lord Derby was that neither single nor married men belonging to a specially excepted trade should be allowed to plead, unless they were working therein before August, 1915. The speaker scathingly attacked Sir John A. Simon, ex-secretary for home affairs, and those associated with him, for their efforts to defeat the Military Service act.

Concluding, the Earl of Derby said he remained in charge of the recruiting, despite his appointment in connection with the air service. He appealed to the government to act quickly, and with a strong hand, saying it would find the country would support it in any effort to obtain the requisite number of fighting men, and without which the empire might fall.

The Earl of Selborne argued that there were single men engaged in agriculture work who could not be spared owing to the vital necessity for adequate food supplies being produced in this country.

No Single Man Needed.

Baron Harris, who himself has large farm interests, contended in a directly opposite sense, saying that not one single man was necessary on any farm.

"The government reply was given by the Marquis of Lansdowne, who declared that it was the government's intention carefully to revise the list of special occupations. All the suggestions would be taken into consideration by a conference of the department heads.

This statement brought the Earl of Derby to his feet again, with the emphatic declaration:

"Don't let us flatter ourselves that it is only the earlier groups who will disappoint; later groups will be the same. Don't let us think, either, that small proposals for a reduction in the number of reserved trades is likely to give us the men we want. It must be done on a much bigger scale, and I hope the government will decide to do it on a bigger scale."

FRANCIS NEILSON GIVES UP HIS SEAT IN PARLIAMENT.

London, March 2, 10.17 p.m.—Francis Neilson, Liberal member of parliament for the Hyde division of Cheshire, has applied for the Chiltern Hundreds, which is equivalent to resigning his seat.

Neilson is at present in the United States, where he has been since August 1915. He has not appeared in the house of commons or in his constituency since the start of the war. Neilson is the author of numerous plays, librettos and short stories.

BRITISH TAKE HAND IN WESTERN BATTLE

Half Mile of Trenches and German Salient Stormed at Ypres-Comines Canal

Germans Renew Infantry Attacks at Verdun with Great Ferocity, But Fail to Win Ground Despite Heavy Losses—Germans Using 150-Pound Shells on Eastern Front—Russians Take Two More Towns in Lake Van Region.

London, March 2, 10.44 p. m.—A British official statement issued tonight on the fighting in the western zone says:

"We recaptured the trenches at the bluff of the Ypres-Comines canal, which were lost Feb. 14, and also captured a small salient in the German line."

"A counter attack launched by the enemy some hours later was repulsed. German mine galleries in the captured trenches were destroyed. We have taken 180 prisoners, including four officers.

"There has been much artillery activity on both sides today from Vierstraat to Boesinghe."

FRENCH FIRE DECIMATES ENEMY.

Paris, March 2, 10.55 p. m.—German attacks of great violence, both artillery and infantry, have been resumed to the north of Verdun. The official statement issued by the war office tonight says that furious infantry assaults have been repulsed by the French troops, "whose fire decimated the ranks of the enemy."

The text of the statement follows:

"In Belgium destructive fires have been directed by our artillery against the German organizations to the east of Steenstraete.

"Between the Somme and the Oise a German work was destroyed by our batteries in the region of Beuvraignes.

"In Champagne a German aeroplane, shelled by our batteries in the vicinity of Suippes, fell in flames within the enemy lines.

"In the Argonne we executed concentrated fires to the north of Haraucc and on the Cheppy wood.

"In the region to the north of Verdun and in the Woevre the activity of the enemy artillery, which had abated somewhat during the preceding days, was considerably increased during the course of the day along the entire front, and principally on Le Mort Homme, the Cote Du Poivre and in the region of Douaumont. At the last named point the bombardment was followed by several attacks of infantry of extreme violence. This series of attacks was repulsed by our troops, whose fire decimated the enemy ranks.

"Our batteries replied energetically everywhere to the bombardment, and shelled the enemy's road of communication.

"To the northeast of St. Mihiel our long range guns bombarded the railway station at Vigneulles. According to our observers two fires were started, several trains were hit and a locomotive was blown up.

"In Upper Alsace there has been great activity on the part of both artilleries in the sector of Seppois.

"Last night one of our bombing squadrons dropped forty-four shells of all calibres on the station at Chambley, which appeared to have suffered serious damage. Notwithstanding a lively cannonade the aeroplanes returned in safety to our lines.

"Today our aeropolanes likewise dropped forty-one shells on the railway station at Bensdorff and nine projectiles on the enemy establishments at Avricourt."

The Belgian official communication reads:

"Artillery duels have occurred chiefly in the northern part of the front. There was fighting with bombs in the direction of Steenstraete."

Germans Use Heavy Shells in East.

Petrograd, via London, March 2—(midnight)—The following official communication was issued today:

"Western (Russian) front: In the district of Lake Kanger the Germans have bombarded, with naval guns, the villages of Laprenesh and Biganntzem. Numerous German aeroplanes have bombarded the Riga sector, and there has been an aerial bombardment between Ikskull and Elisinhof on the Dvina river.

"In the vicinity of Dvinsk the Germans bombarded our lines near Illoukst, and the Poniewesh railway with shells weighing 150 pounds. The German heavy artillery has bombarded the Lake Sventen region.

"Our artillery has developed an efficacious fire against Novo Alexandrovsk and the Tourment station.

"In Galicia, on the Middle Stripa front, the Germans twice attempted to approach our trenches, but on each occasion were repulsed by our fire.

"Caucasus front: In the direction of Erzingian (Turkish Aremenia, to the southwest of Erzerum) the Turks continue their retreat. Here our calavry has found four guns abandoned by the Turks. In the direction of Bitlis the enemy continues his retreat under the pressure of our troops. We have occupied Kamalk and the Nekavank convent, seven miles northeast of Bitlis."

Snowfall on Italian Front.

Rome, via London, March 2—The following communication was issued today:

"A small enemy attack near Marter, in the Val Sugana, was repulsed. Our heavy artillery has successfully bombarded the Toblach railroad station. Along the entire Isonzo front the bad weather has continued, with snowfalls in the higher regions, but our patrols have been active in harrassing the enemy in the trenches by their rifle fire and grenades.

"Our artillery has shelled important objectives, including the Santa Lucia station and Tolmino. One of our batteries, having daringly attacked a favorable position, opened a surprise fire and effectively shelled enemy barracks and shelters behind Podgora Heights."

Colored German Report.

Berlin, March 2, via wireless to Sayville—"Summarizing the present situation on the western front around Verdun, correspondents at the front declare that between Feb. 21 and March 1, a total of 170 square kilometres of terrain was gained by the Germans, this being four times as much as the French won in their entire offensive in the Champagne last fall," says the Overseas News Agency today.

"The taking of this ground north and east of Verdun has shortened the German radius of action from the north to the southeast by several kilometres.

"The German tactics are to consistently evade the possibilities of great loss of human life, and therefore to avoid direct forming, and replace it by the constant collaboration of all arms. The consequence is that the entire advance consisted of a series of tidal waves, each of which, during the last few days, were productive of gains.

"The correspondents again say that all the gains were obtained with losses which were comparatively insignificant."

PRO-ALLY PAPER SUFFERER FROM INCENDIARY FIRE

Providence, R. I., March 2—A fire of uncertain origin, accompanied by a small explosion, caused damage of $2,000 in the office of the Providence Journal tonight. The blaze started in the office of the managing editor, among some newspapers, and spread to another of the editorial rooms.

A statement given out by the Journal said the explosion, which occurred a few minutes after the fire started, filled the room with flames, which shot through the editor's room adjoining.

"The room in which the fire originated had been unoccupied for two hours," said the statement, "and there were no electric wires that could possibly have started the blaze."

The Providence Journal has been carrying on a vigorous campaign against German propaganda in this country, their articles being widely used in other American papers. The Journal was particularly energetic in publishing articles dealing with the activity of the former German military and naval attaches at Washington, Captains Von Papen and Boy-Ed respectively, which activity finally caused the Washington government to demand their recall by Germany.

GERMAN NOTE GOES BY WAY OF LONDON.

Berlin, via London, March 3, 12.29 a. m.—The German memorandum on armed merchantmen addressed to the United States was dispatched by way of London in the embassy pouch leaving Berlin Feb. 14. It was presumably forwarded to the United States on the steamer California on Feb. 19.

It is understood that the photographs of copies of the captured British instructions to armed merchant ships were sent to the German ambassador at Washington, Count Von Bernstorff, several days before the issuance of the memorandum.

War Summary

The Germans have resumed their heavy offensive in the region of Verdun, with the French everywhere strongly opposing it. While over most of the front, from the east of the Meuse down into the Woevre region, the German big guns have been active, around Douaumont the Teutons launched several infantry attacks of extreme violence. These, the French war office declares, were put down by the French troops, whose fire decimated the enemy ranks. Le Mort Homme, the Cote Du Poivre, and the Douaumont sector particularly have suffered heavy bombardment.

Northeast of St. Mihiel the French guns have been worked effectively against the German positions. In Alcase, in the region of Seppois, a heavy artillery duel has been in progress.

The British along the Ypres-Comines Canal have reversed the victory gained over them by the Germans February 14, by retaking the 800 yards of trenches the Germans captured at that time. The German mine galleries in the trenches were destroyed, and four officers and 176 men were made prisoners. In addition, French guns have destroyed a German work in the region of Beuvraignes, which lies between the Somme and Oise rivers.

The situation remains unchanged on the Russian and Austro-Italian fronts. In Asia the Russians are keeping up their strong offensive against the Turks.

Soldier's Vivid Story of Hun's Vain Sacrifice

Paris, March 2—(Specoal Cable)—Stories of terrific bombardments on the western front have been described since the beginning of the war, but the wounded arriving from Verdun say that the German bombardment in the attack on that fortress eclipsed anything ever before experienced.

Pale from his suffering and palsied by reason of his awful experiences, a young French soldier who fought through the attack on Verdun has arrived in Paris.

In speaking of the bombardment of the enemy he said that it was a regular deluge. "The terrific cyclones of shells demolished the trenches as if they were suddenly uprooted and were upset in the earth itself," he said. "A devilish grip of gigantic proportions seemed to have been let loose upon our trenches. With machine like regularity and death dealing persistency the avalanche of shells kept pouring upon our trenches in front of Verdun, from the masked batteries along the German lines. Hour after hour the merciless pounding continued, but still our lines hung on with the death grip of a drowning man. Once or twice there may have been a faltering, but it was only a moral relaxation for the moment, and a strength born of desperation returned and the weak links again became strong.

As his mind's eye wandered back to the desperate infantry attacks, he said: "Then came their infantry. Hundreds of thousands were massed to make the assault, thousands were sacrificed. On and on they came, stretching out over 'No Man's Land' like a great grey carpet, whose surface palpitated as it moved forward.

"Great shells from our batteries bore down upon them like the huge shears of a tailor opening wide gashes in the ranks, but they were filled as by magic. It was flesh and blood arrayed against machinery and steel. Machinery and steel won finally. Machine guns and rifle fire played upon their ranks like the dancing light from a reflecter making ghastly rents which the order 'Capture Verdun at any cost,' repaired almost as quickly as they were made.

"Small cannon might have been firing peas, but the mitrailleuses mowed down the rows like corn before the sickle of the reaper and the balance, stuck like pigs, lay bleeding before our lines. Dying groans and raving curses were drowned in the crash of artillery almost before they broke forth from German lips.

"The very firmament seemed a thing of lyddite. Here, there, everywhere explosions took place, and sappers who had thrown desperate odds into the face of destiny were buried and held underground till other mine explosions released them." The soldier told of wonderful escapes where men buried by an exploding shell were miraculously delivered again by the one which followed.

KING CONVINCED BY GENERAL SARRAIL.

London, March 3, 2.38 a. m.—In an interview with the Athens correspondent of the Chronicle, King Constantine declared that his conferences with General Sarrail had done much to revive confidence in the Entente Allies.

"As far as I am aware," King Constantine is quoted as saying, "the Greeks as a body have never been pro-German, but putting it mildly the series of pin pricks administered by the Franco-English have made them anti-Ententists. I am now told that the pin pricks are to cease, but even though a radical change in the treatment toward Greece has been inaugurated, the irritation caused by the former system will take some time to disappear."

Mine Sank Maloja.

Dover, March 2—The inquest into the death of the victims of the steamer Maloja, sunk off Dover on Sunday last, resulted today in a verdict that the deaths were caused as the result of the vessel striking a mine.

WILSON SECURE IN HOUSE AND SENATE

Remarkable Debate in Upper Chamber Leads to Indication of Presidential Victory

Charge Made and Denied That Wilson Said That War For "U. S. Would Not Be Ungrateful and That it Would End By Midsummer"—British Lose More Ships in Storms Than by Enemy's Work—Moewe Report Unconfirmed.

Washington, March 2—Out of a day's developments in President Wilson's fight with congress, crowded to the utmost with elements of the sensational and dramatic, the administration forces in the senate tonight emerged with pledges of enough votes to kill once and for all Senator Gore's resolution to warn Americans off armed ships of the European belligerents, and demonstrate that congress stands behind the president in his negotiations with Germany.

Action in the senate tomorrow, it is believed, will be followed promptly by stifling of sentiment in the house against the president's foreign policy.

While the senate debated today there came news to the state department from Berlin which convinced officials that the dissension in congress was being used deliberately to weaken the president's hand in Germany. Confidential advices stated that reports circulated in the German capital, as having come from Washington, declared that congress stood 5 to 1 against the president.

LONDON MAKES ORDERS PUBLIC.

London, March 2—The British admiralty has made public its instructions to armed merchantmen. Armament is supplied to such vessels, the instructions say, "solely for the purpose of resisting attack by an armed enemy vessel, and must not be used for any other purpose whatsoever."

Nothing definite has transpired with regard to the report that the German commerce raider Moewe had been captured and taken into Trinidad by British cruisers. A despatch from Trinidad says nothing is known there concerning the Moewe.

An official communication issued tonight concerning marine losses says:

"British wrecks reported to the board of trade in February aggregated sixty-nine, involving a loss of 420 lives. Included in the wrecks were 42 steamships of a total tonnage of 56,856.

"Ten of these steamers were sunk by enemy warships, with a loss of 36 lives; five by mines, with a loss of 176 lives; one by a mine or submarine, with a loss of eight lives, and one by bombs from a Zeppelin, with a loss of 15 lives.

"Of twenty-seven sailing ships lost six were sunk by enemy warships."

TEXT OF BRITISH ORDERS PUBLIC

London, March 2, 10.30 p.m.—The British admiralty tonight officially made public the admiralty's orders to armed merchantmen, given October 20, 1915. The orders says that the armament of such vessels must be used solely for resisting an attack by an armed vessel, and for no other purpose. As British submarines and aircraft are ordered not to approach merchantmen, the orders say, the approach to a British merchantman of a submarine is to be regarded as done with a hostile intention.

The official statement reads as follows:

"In view of the recent issue by the German government of a memorandum on the treatment of armed merchant ships, the admiralty has decided to make public the instructions actually governing the actions of British merchant vessels armed for self-defense.

"Instructions, dated 20th of October, 1915, re the status of armed merchant ships:

"(1)—The right of the crew of a merchant vessel to forcibly resist visit and search and fight in self-defense is well recognized in international law, and expressly admitted by the German prize regulations in an addendum issued June, 1914, at a time when it was known that numerous merchant vessels were being armed for self-defense.

"(2)—Armament is supplied solely for the purpose of resisting attack by an armed enemy vessel, and must not be used for any other purpose whatsoever.

"(3)—An armed merchant vessel, therefore, must not in any circumstances interfere with or obstruct the free passage of other merchant vessels or fishing craft, whether these are friendly, neutral or hostile.

"(4)—The status of a British armed merchant vessel cannot be changed upon the high seas.

Rules for Self-Defence.

Rules to be observed in the exercise of right of self-defence:

"(1)—The master or officer in command is responsible for opening and ceasing fire.

"(2)—Participation in armed resistance must be confined to persons acting under the orders of the master or the officer in command.

"(3)—Before opening fire the British colors must be hoisted.

"(4)—Fire must not be opened or continued from a vessel which has stopped, hauled down her flag or otherwise indicated her intention to surrender.

"(5)—The expression 'armament' includes not only cannon, but also rifles and machine guns in cases, where these have been supplied.

"(6)—The ammunition used in rifles and machine guns must conform to article 23, Hague Convention IV, 1907—that is, bullets must be cased in nickel or other hard substance, and must not be split or cut in such a way as to cause them to expand or set up on striking a man. The use of explosives bullets is forbidden. Circumstances under which armament is supplied for the purpose of defense only. The object of the master

(Continued on page 8.)

STONE DEFIES THE PRESIDENT

Washington, March 2—Senator Stone from the floor of the senate announced that today he and President Wilson were not in accord on the foreign issue.

"I desire to state the international situation as I understand it," said Senator Stone.

"A sharp issue has been defined between Germany and Great Britain as to the status of armed merchantmen. Germany contents that armed merchant vessels are the equivalent of auxiliary war vessels and has announced her policy to be, that after March 1, armed merchantmen would be regarded as warships and subject to the rules of war.

"On the other hand Great Britain contends that under international law merchantment have the right to be armed for defensive purposes and that armed merchantmen are entitled under the law to the same immunity as unarmed ships, without regard to cargo. She has announced her intention to carry out that policy.

"That is the issue between these two governments.

"Now, where does the United States come in this thing? If both persist in these courses, neither yielding to each other, nor to the importunities of neutral nations, and if Germany attacks an armed merchantman and any American citizen is injured, the question is presented to this government what our attitude would be. If no American citizens were on board we would have no cause to interfere, unless we proceeded on the altruistic theory of obligations of humanity.

Emergency of High Importance.

"To my mind this emergency is of high importance. The president, senators and representatives should speak with each other and with the country, free from political bias. We should wear our hearts on our sleeves so we may know our position exactly.

"The president's attitude is this: He supports the contention that belligerent merchantmen have the right to bear arms for defensive purposes, but he does not say, nor do I, and I doubt if any one does, what constitutes defensive purposes.

"Furthermore, if a German warship without warning should attack and sink a merchantman, the president proposes to consider the attack a lawless act. He will be disposed to hold the German government to strict accountability, and if the German government persisted, he would be tempted to sever diplomatic relations and submit the matter to congress, which, under the constitution, is the war making body.

"If it must come to this, and I must disagree with the president, and if I must disagree with my colleagues, I must not face this as a political question. My duty is clear. I cannot but believe that if a belligerent merchantman is armed, whether for defensive or offensive purposes; if it is transporting war material, it is the equvalent of a war vessel."

Senator Core declared the impelling reason for his course was a report that

(Continued on page 8.)

CRITICISMS BRING IMPROVEMENTS IN NEW WAR TAXES

Sir Thomas White Incorporates Many Liberal Suggestions in Budget

WATERED STOCK NO LONGER TO ESCAPE

Shift Made in Time for Beginning Application — General Hughes Attempts Too Much in Effort to Prove Canadian Army Raised Without Recourse to Patronage.

(Special to The Telegraph).

Ottawa, March 2—Two weeks ago Sir Thomas White brought down a budget for which his followers in the house and satellites of the press claimed perfection. This afternoon after a fortnight's consideration of criticism in the house, in the Liberal press and in the country, Sir Thomas ironed out a number of inequalities which at the first he had not perceived himself.

On Monday last Sir Robert Borden and his government refused to extend the suffrage to women in dominion elections. This afternoon Sir Robert and his government extended the honor of a

MRS. EMMELINE PANKHURST, militant suffragete, who occupied a seat in the Canadian parliament yesterday.

seat in the commons to the Queen of Suffragettes, Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst.

Yesterday in the public accounts committee, H. R. Brown, director of contracts, stated under oath that all contracts let by the militia department from the beginning of the war until last May, were confined to men whose names appeared on the department's patronage list supplied by the minister himself. Today, General Hughes, minister of militia, declared solemnly to the house that from the time the war commenced patronage had been banished from the militia headquarters and discouraged by strict orders elsewhere.

So there are lots of inconsistencies in parliamentary life.

Watered Stock Denatured.

The changes announced in the new business taxes as outlined in the budget are of a very important nature. Corporations with swollen and bloated capitalization are to have their stock dewatred. Unimpaired reserves are to be counted as capital; bookkeeping reserves are not. Mining companies are to be considerately dealt with. Their so-called annual profits result in an exhaustion of the ore of the mines, and the finance minister is going to make allowance for that exhaustion. The dummy corporation in Canada which sells its product barely at cost to the real corporation on the other side of the boundary line, will be brought up standing and its net profits will be computed on the basis of what they would be if the corporation was doing business with a stranger, and charged prices accordingly.

Hughes Attempts Too Much.

If General Hughes had succeeded in making the house believe that the great things which Canada has done since the war commenced had been unmarred by party patronage, his speech would have been one of the most inspiring ever delivered in the Canadian parliament. The feat of raising 275,000 men in nineteen months; the glories of St. Julien, of Festubert and Givenchy; the loyalty of every part of the dominion without regard for origin or creed, all these things were told of simply and well by the minister. But when the minister solemnly declared that all these things had been untarnished by political patronage and that money had been expended without regard to party, cynical laughter came from the opposition side of the house and to the listeners in the gallery it must have seemed a pity that the minister was unable to substantiate his statement. Proof to the contrary was soon forthcoming from members representing constituencies all over the dominion, east and

(Continued on page 8.)

THE BRITISH LIBRARY