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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER.

FORTY SEVENTH YEAR | THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1918. | TWO CENTS

RUMANIA TO SIGN FOR PEACE

PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT FOR ARMISTICE IS REACHED

Hun Peace Terms Bind Russia in Ring of Iron

SAY BRITAIN IS BEATEN BY SUBMARINE

Standard Ships Now Being Produced Not Equal To Sinkings

CASUALTIES HIGH

Losses By Marine Causes Alone, Apart From Foe Activity, Large.

WOULD ROUSE PUBLIC

Heads of Steamship Companies Speak Plainly on the Situation

GEDDES DEFENDED

Admiralty Lord Did as He Saw Best in Dismissing Sir John Jellicoe

BONAR LAW SPEAKS

By Courier Leased Wire

London, March 7 — Standard ships produced in British shipyards in a fortnight are not equal to the sinkings by submarines, Sir John R. Ellerman, steamship owner, declared today at a meeting of the Chamber of Shipping. He explained that owing to the conditions under which owners are carrying on trade and war conditions, marine casualties, apart from enemy action, are double and treble what they were in the days before the war. He said that the output of shipping since the war was not sufficient to make good the losses by marine causes alone, leaving the losses by enemy action yet to be made up.

Baron Inchcape, complaining of what he termed the unpromising outlook, said that not a sound had been heard along the Clyde since noon last Saturday. It might be, he suggested, that no war was going on and that no new ships or destroyers to hunt submarines were required. He said he thought more information about shipping losses might be given the people to make them appreciate the gravity of the situation, adding:

"Our tonnage is being sunk at a rate of which the people have no conception. There is a curious lack of realization in many parts of the country as to the grave situation with which we are faced."

DEFENDS GEDDES.

London, March 6.—Whether Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, was right or wrong in dismissing Admiral Jellicoe from the post of First Sea Lord, he had done what he considered best in the interest of the country, Andrew Bonar Law declared in the House of Commons to-day, as spokesman for the Government, in reply to criticisms of the First Lord's action. He added:

"The Premier has assured me privately that he had absolutely nothing to do with anything that has been published in the press regarding Admiral Jellicoe and that the suggestion was entirely unfounded that any member of the Government, either the Premier or Sir Eric Geddes, had taken such a despicable course."

WOUNDED SEAMAN MURDERED BY HUNS

By Courier Leased Wire

London, March 7.—How the members of the crew of a German submarine brutally killed the wounded master of a Belgian fishing smack who refused to leave the vessel, is described in a Press Association despatch from Penzance. The submarine attacked the smack with gunfire and the skipper was wounded severely. He urged his men, including his son, to save themselves.

The submarine commander forced the fishermen to row German sailors to the smack in order to place bombs aboard. One of the Germans drew a revolver and shot the helpless skipper through the head in the presence of his son.

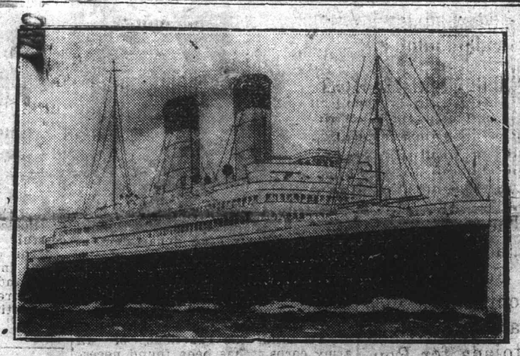
ARTILLERY ACTIVE.

By Courier Leased Wire

Rome, Wednesday, March 6.—The Italian and enemy batteries on important sectors of the front have again taken up reciprocal firing activity. The statement from the War Office to-day also reports effective work by Italian airships. The statement reads:

"There was a lively renewal of reciprocal fire between Lake Garda and the Astico in the region of Montello and along the coastal zone. Our batteries made effective concentrations of fire on enemy troops in movement in the Asiago basin, south of Primolano, on the back slopes of Col Della Beretta and in the vicinity of Lampol to the left of the Piave. South of Tierno hostile reconnaissance parties who attempted to reach our lines were repulsed with losses. On the Pasubio we exploded a mine damaging enemy's positions.

"Our aircraft bombarded the enemy's positions, also Motta di Livenza and a column of troops marching in the neighborhood of Oderzo. A British aviator brought down a hostile machine."



ALLAN LINER CALGARIAN SUNK OFF IRELAND.

REDMOND'S DEATH A BLOW TO SETTLEMENT OF IRISH ISSUE

Dead Leader Exercised Great Moderating Influence, and is Responsible For Any Prospect of Agreement Now Visible—Was Supporter of Government From Outset of War

By Courier Leased Wire

London, March 7.—The death of John Redmond at the moment when the convention which is to settle the future of Ireland, is having its most momentous sessions, is considered in political circles to be almost a disaster. During the weeks which the Irish convention has been busy trying to find a solution to the Irish problem, to which he gave his life, Mr. Redmond exercised a great moderating influence and if, as dispatches from Dublin say, there is again a prospect of agreement, he must be given a great measure of credit for this state of affairs.

In fact since he took over the leadership of the Irish Nationists on the retirement of Parnell, Mr. Redmond has been among those Irishmen who fought for a settlement of the home rule question by parliamentary means, and when the act granting self-government finally became a law in 1914, it was a great triumph for him and received recognition throughout the world, as was shown by the thousands of congratulatory telegrams he received.

The war prevented the act from being put into force, and while this was a great disappointment to Mr. Redmond, he, nevertheless, stood by the English government or, as he would have preferred to say, "the English democracy," in which he had great confidence and which he always said, would see that Ireland received justice. His speech in the House of Commons supporting the government's decision to enter the war because of the invasion of Belgium by Germany, greatly enhanced his reputation in England, where he had always been popular and respected and gained many converts for the cause which he championed.

Mr. Redmond declined a seat in the coalition cabinet of 1915, not because he had become a less ardent supporter of the Entente's war aims, but because he feared that to do so might injure Ireland and his party.

Since then his illness and family bereavements, which include the death of his brother, William, at the head of his battalion in France, took him out of the public eye, except on occasions when Irish questions required his attention.

However, Mr. Redmond went to work harder than ever when the Irish convention was created, and with the exception of the last few meetings he was a regular attendant at the sessions and took a leading part in the deliberations, despite the great pain he was suffering from the ailment which made necessary the operation that ended in his death.

Other events in Ireland, such as the excesses of the Sinn Feiners, did not lessen his worries and, except for Premier Lloyd George, there was no man in England who had a more difficult position to hold. But the Irish Nationalist leader, had had the training which enabled him to succeed where others failed. He was the most experienced student of parliamentary procedure and had sat in the House continuously for thirty-seven years. The Irish convention adjourned for two hours yesterday when it heard of Mr. Redmond's death. Later it passed a resolution of sorrow, which said:

"Throughout the proceedings of the convention his wise counsel was an invaluable aid for our guidance.

Continued on Page Two

RUMANIAN KING MAY NOT BE FORCED TO ABDICATE

Dynastic Question is an Internal One, Declares German Under Foreign Secretary; Prince William of Hohenzollern May Not Replace Brother, Present Ruler; Russia German Peace Binds Former Country Fast

By Courier Leased Wire.

Amsterdam, March 7.—The dynastic question in Roumania is an internal one. This declaration was made by Baron von Dem Bussche-Haddenhausen, under secretary for foreign affairs, in the Reichstag in reply to observations by other speakers regarding the future of the Roumanian throne.

It had been reported from several sources that Prince William of Hohenzollern, brother of King Ferdinand of Roumania, was to succeed his brother on the Roumanian throne. The preliminary peace treaty between Roumania and the Central Powers, however, makes no mention of any proposed change in the Roumanian dynasty.

Preliminary Peace Signed

Amsterdam, Wednesday, March 6.—The preliminary peace signed Tuesday evening at Bufftea, according to a despatch from Bucharest was signed by Foreign Secretary Czernin, for Austria-Hungary; M. Montschiloff, vice president of the Sobranje, for Bulgaria; Talaat Pasha, the grand vizier, for Turkey, and M. Cartentojana for Roumania. It was agreed that the armistice between Roumania and the Central Powers should run for 14 days from midnight, March 5, with a period of three days for denunciation.

Complete agreement was reached between the signatories that the final peace should be concluded within this period on the basis of the preliminary treaty.

FOE LINES CONSOLIDATED

The German advance into Russia was suspended on Tuesday, Petrograd dispatches declare, and its resumption on Wednesday appears to have been only to accomplish the consolidation of the German line delineated in the peace treaty along the Esthonian and Livonian borders.

Addresses made at a soldiers' and Workmen's meeting in Moscow indicate that there is a full understanding among the leaders of the Russian masses, at least of the nature of the peace Germany has exacted from the Bolsheviki Government. One of the speakers declared the new frontiers constitute "a ring of iron around revolutionary Russia," which Germany intended to crush through her economic demands.

London, March 7—The German advance eastward into Russia stopped early Tuesday, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Petrograd, dated Wednesday, but was resumed during the night on several sectors in order to allow the Germans to reach and consolidate the line between Jamburg and Gdoff (east of Lake Pelpus and south of Narva). It is reported in Petrograd that banks have been re-opened, the property of landlords restored and other conditions approaching the old regime revived in towns occupied by the Germans.

Pat Selves On Back

Amsterdam, March 7—Premier von Seydler, in announcing the signing of a preliminary peace treaty with Roumania in the Austrian lower house, said

"Permit me sincerely to congratulate the house that by the military and political co-operation of Austria-Hungary, with its faithful allies this fresh and important stage on the road to a general peace has been reached."

The statement was greeted with prolonged cheering.

RUSSIA BOUND FAST

Petrograd Calm

Petrograd, Tuesday, March 5.—Petrograd was calm and orderly today regardless of the presence of German troops at Narva, one hundred miles from the capital and evidences on all sides of the removal of war supplies.

Russia Helpless

Petragrad, Wednesday, March 6—To a gathering of workmen's and soldiers' delegates at Moscow on Monday, M. Prokrovsky, leader of the second peace negotiation at Brest-Litovsk, explained the treaty with the Central Powers. Deeply moved, he begged those in sympathy with the Democratic revolution not to receive themselves.

The new frontiers traced by Germany, M. Prokrovsky declared, constitute a ring of iron around revolutionary Russia. He said the Germans were endeavoring to stifle the revolution, the conquests of which were reduced to nothing by economic demands of Berlin. The decree nationalizing the banks had fallen into abeyance because the German terms had the effect of converting the banks into German concerns.

Military evacuation by Russia of Esthonia, Courtland and Livonia gave the enemy full authority in those regions.

M. Zinovieff, president of the Petrograd Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates; M. Sverdloff and others from Petrograd addressed the conference. They said the Russian representatives were obliged to sign the peace agreement as a tactical measure, owing to the situation brought about by Ukrainia agreeing to ignominous peace terms. The meeting adopted no resolution.

AERIAL ACTIVITY

By Courier Leased Wire

London, Wednesday, March 6.—(Delayed) — "After two days of wind and rain, the weather cleared slightly on the afternoon of Tuesday," says to-day's official report of aerial operations. "Bombs were dropped on railroad sidings northeast of Lille. In air fighting two hostile machines were downed and one was driven down out of control. One of our's is missing. After dark the Inglemunster railway station and an airdrome northeast of St. Quentin were heavily bombed. All our machines returned."

RESPITE IN BATTLE ON ALL FRONTS

Lull Follows Cessation of the German Advance In Russia

ARTILLERY ACTIVE

With the cessation of the German advance into Russia military operations in the European war fields are again confined to trench raids, artillery bombardments and colliory aerial activities. Both sides are almost equally active in the newly developed raiding tactics, in which the artillery arm is freely employed by way of preparation and support. The German raiders, however, were somewhat more aggressive than usual during the past thirty-six hours, according to the indications in the official reports, which reveal thrusts by German troops virtually all along the line from Flanders to the Vosges.

The artillery fighting along the French lines centred chiefly in the Verdun region, where it was accompanied by raids, which the French repulsed.

U. S. Organization.

New York, March 7.—An Associated Press despatch from Washington this morning says:

"Based upon the three line method of trench warfare evolved in France, the War Department, it was learned to-day, has approved a plan of organization which fixes six divisions as the strength of an army corps.

"Three or more corps will constitute a field army and the immediate purpose of the department is to complete the organization of the first field army in France in the shortest possible time to give General Pershing the strength to hold a fully Americanized sector of the front.

"To fulfill the functions of an army corps it has been found necessary to place under a corps commander, in addition to his six infantry divisions, approximately 30,000 men known as corps troops. These comprise artillery units, engineers and all type of service battalions for work on the communication lines of their own corps. A similar organization of about 130,000 men is necessary for each field army of three corps. These field army troops maintain the lines from the advance base of the army back to the sources of supply. In the case of Gen. Pershing's forces this line connects with the ocean transport service.

"Included in the army corps are many units of heavy artillery equipped with guns ranging up to 10 and 12 inches in calibre, both for fixed emplacement and for mobile artil-

(Continued on Page 4.)

FOE RAIDS REPULSED BY FRENCH

German Attacks Checked, and Prisoners Taken, on Verdun Front

BRITISH OFFICIAL

By Courier Leased Wire

Paris, Wednesday, March 6—German raids on the Verdun front last night were repulsed by the French, the war office announces. The communication follows:

"Rather heavy artillery fighting occurred in the regions of Cormiecy and Rheims. Last night the Germans made raids against our trenches at Avcourt wood and northwest of Hill 344 (Verdun front). Our fire everywhere checked the assailants and prisoners, including an officer, remaining in our hands.

"Our lines were bombarded intermittently to-day in the region of Avocourt and north of Douamount. At times there was heavy artillery firing at various points in Lorraine and Alsace.

"On Tuesday three German airplanes were brought down by our pilots and two by the fire of our anti-aircraft guns.

British Official

London, March 7.—"A raid attempted by the enemy last night east of Epehy under cover of a heavy artillery barrage was completely repulsed," the war office reports.

"Other hostile raiding parties which endeavored to reach our lines southeast of Bois Grenier and east of Poelcapelle were equally unsuccessful.

"The enemy's artillery has been active in the Scarpe valley, west of Lens and east of Ypres, and shortly before dawn developed considerable activity in the Neuve Chapelle sector."

GERMANY PLANS TO THWART JAP ACTION

Oriental Intervention in Siberia Means Fundamental Alteration of Entire World Position; Huns to Ally Themselves Either With Japan or Russia.

By Courier Leased Wire.

Amsterdam, March 7.—A Berlin despatch to The Koelnische Volks Zeitung says:

"The pretext that Japan desires to secure herself against a German advance in Russia is absolutely ridiculous. This political event will either lead to an agreement between Germany and Russia against Japan or an understanding between Germany and Japan. Japanese settlement in eastern Asia clearly means the fundamental alteration of the entire world position, but which will not be in any way to the disadvantage of the Central

A Warning

Amsterdam, Wednesday, March 6.—In an obviously inspired article the semi-official Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung warns neutral states in connection with the negotiations by the United States to acquire neutral tonnage and argues that vessels so acquired assume a hostile character and must be treated as such no matter whether the tonnage is employed within or without the barred zone.

The paper contends that such transfer of tonnage by neutrals is tantamount to indirect participation by neutrals in economic war against Germany and involves serious danger of complications "as already shown in the history of the United States during the present war." It adds that participation by neutrals in such negotiations is an act hardly consonant with neutrality.

BRITISH OFFICIAL

By Courier Leased Wire

(Delayed)—To-night's statement on (Delayed)—To-night's statement on military operations issued by the war office reads:

"The enemy artillery has been more active than usual south of St. Quentin and in the neighborhood of Bois Grenier. Some activity was also shown west of Cambrai and southeast and northeast of Ypres."

THE MERCHANTS CORNER

WHY WOMEN READ ADS.

The Minneapolis Ad Froum has made a test of women's interest in newspaper advertising, and the result is probably applicable to other commonwealths. At a recent meeting a report was read showing that, according to replies received from 100 representative women, 82.89 per cent. of the gentler sex in that city have faith in such advertising.

It was shown that 92.37 per cent read this class of matter and 8.63 do not; 17.57 read ads sometimes and 82.43 read them always. Of those who read, 34.21 per cent. do so as a shopping guide; 28.94 are on the lookout for sales; 17.10 read from motives of economy; 9.21 to keep in touch with the styles, 7.89 for comparison, and 7.89 because their attention is attracted. The reasons for confidence in ads are thus classified; Faith in certain firms, 34.21; from experience, 26.31; in reasonable ads, 14.47; faith enough to read them, at least, 6.57; enough to order by telephone, 1.31; faith because of the Forum's vigilance, 1.31.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, Mar. 7. — Depressions exist off the middle Atlantic coast and to the northward of Lake Superior, while pressure is nowhere very high. Light to moderate snow falls have occurred in Ontario and the Maritime provinces, also in Saskatchewan

Forecasts

A few light local snow falls or flurries, but mostly fair and moderately cold to-day and on Friday.