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The Toronto World

FRIDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 21 1917—FOURTEEN PAGES.

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GREAT Success Attended Our Troops and Positions of Considerable Military Importance Have Been Won, Says Sir Douglas Haig's Despatch--Advance Made on Eight-Mile Front and Two Thousand Prisoners Taken in Offensive Launched Suddenly Against Positions.

LABOR WILL NOT OBSTRUCT CONSCRIPTION'S ENFORCEMENT

Trades Congress Shows Marked Disapproval of Measure, But Bows to Law and Authority -- Firebrand Speeches Made by Some Anti-Conscriptionists, But Final Vote is Emphatic.
Ottawa, Sept. 20. -- At the evening session of the trades and labor congress tonight, after two or three amendments had been voted upon and lost, the congress finally passed the following resolution by a vote of 136 for, to 16 against, adopting the report of the executive committee with the amendment of the committee on officers' reports indicating the attitude of organized labor in Canada on the conscription issue.

In 1915 the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, at the annual convention held in Vancouver, declared an unqualified opposition to conscription as a method of military enlistment. Last year at Toronto the same resolution was reaffirmed, with its emphasis. Since then the question of conscription for Canada has agitated the public mind to an unprecedented degree. Sections of the press and numerous public bodies have argued strongly in favor of the adoption in Canada at this juncture, of that method of securing men to fill the ranks of Canadian forces for overseas service.

Will Observe Law.
While the congress cannot stultify itself to the degree of either withdrawing or contradicting this year, its firm and carefully thought-out views on the question of conscription, as embodied in the resolutions of 1915 and 1916, still under our present form of government we do not deem it right, patriotic or in the interests of the labor movement or the Dominion of Canada to say or do anything that might prevent the Government of Canada from obtaining the result, if it chooses in the raising of reinforcements for the C.E.F., by the enforcement of the law.

There was some argument after this vote had been taken, but it goes on record as being the sentiment of the 1917 congress of trades and labor movement in regard to conscription. When President Watton asked all those who were opposed to conscription to rise to their feet there were only a half a dozen or so delegates who remained seated.

Delegate Farnham of Edmonton proposed an amendment to the executive committee's report on conscription, which was seconded by Ross M.L.A., Calgary, that the following be substituted: "This congress cannot stultify itself to the degree of either withdrawing or contradicting this year its firm and carefully thought-out views on the question of conscription as embodied in the resolutions of 1915 and 1916; neither has the government, by its actions, justified itself in recommending a willing submission to the Military Service Act, particularly in view of the fact that up to the present they have not regarded the conscription of wealth as being equally as important as the conscription of man power in the successful prosecution of the war."

Resolution recommending that no conscription of wealth be recommended by the Dominion of Canada to the principle of conscription for war purposes, and that pending the conscription of wealth no support be given to the principle of conscription for war purposes. Narcisse Armand, Montreal, proposed another amendment, seconded by Arthur Martel, Montreal. "We recognize that laws passed by a duly elected government must be observed, or democracy would become anarchy, and yet we see no cause to withdraw or contradict or withdraw the carefully"

British Detain Diplomatic Mail
Authorities at Halifax Seize Four Pouches of Swedish Correspondence.

Washington, Sept. 20. -- Four diplomatic mail pouches sent by the Swedish foreign office to the legation in Washington, are being detained at Halifax by the British authorities. They were taken from a steamer.
No reason for the detention of the mail could be obtained here today. Baron Akerhielm, the Swedish charge, called at the state department and was understood to have taken up the matter with officials there in an effort to have the mail quickly forwarded to its destination. Whether he made a formal protest on behalf of his government was not announced.
The pouches were said to have contained, among other mail, statistics on consumption, production, importation and exportation of foodstuffs and other commodities in Sweden.

RUSSIANS BEAT ENEMY IN BATTLE NEAR RIGA
German Offensive Encounters Setback--Daring Attack of Letts Hurls foe Lines Back, Inflicting Great Losses.

Petrograd, Sept. 20. --(British Admiralty, per Wireless Press.)--The Russians yesterday on the Riga front repulsed an attack by the Germans with great losses to the invaders, according to the statement issued today by the Russian War Office. The Rumanians were compelled to abandon a sector of enemy positions they had occupied in the region of Oena. The text of the statement follows:
"Northern, western and southwestern fronts. Yesterday, in the direction of Riga, the enemy's infantry conducted an offensive in the region east of Lemberg. In a daring counter-attack by Letts, with the energetic co-operation of our artillery, the enemy was driven back and suffered great losses. In other sectors on these fronts there were fruitless.
"our airmen successfully bombed enemy depots in the region of Lodron on the north shore of Lake Scharoen. Yesterday, our fighters dropped bombs in the neighborhood of the railway stations at Dubno and Radziviliv.
"Rumanian front: In the region of Oena, the enemy counter-attacked Tuesday forcing the Rumanians to abandon a sector of enemy positions they had occupied. In the region south of Grotzki the Rumanians took prisoner two officers and 33 men. Yesterday nothing of material consequence occurred on this front.
"Caucasi front: East of Van our troops have been engaged in battle with the band of Kurds. The snow in places is four feet deep in the mountain theatre. In the region south of Kalkit and southeast of Erzinagan a snow storm is raging, accompanied by a freezing temperature."

CANADIANS PUSH OUT INTO NO MAN'S LAND
Currie's Men Are Steadily Squeezing Germans Out of Lens--Cost of Holding the Town Becomes Too Great.

By Stewart Lyon.
Canadian Army Headquarters in France, via London, Sept. 20. --Pressure upon the defences of Lens is unrelenting. Posts have again been pushed out into "No Man's Land" in the region south of St. Laurent and the ground in the defence of which the enemy a month ago fought fiercely, sustaining hundreds of casualties, has been occupied by us almost without a struggle. The Germans are being literally squeezed out of Lens, and if credence may be placed in the reports of the garrison would welcome the order to evacuate. Enemy orders are still to hold on at all costs, but there is reason to believe the cost is becoming too great, since the occupation by us of the northern suburbs permits the projection of gas into the town from the north as well from the south and west.
Local opinion in this great industrial region seems to be in full accord with the declaration made by the new premier of France as to the nation's war aims. The restoration of Alsace-Lorraine is regarded as vital to the future security of the country. By the deliberate policy of stripping the French population in the occupied territory of all their portable possessions, Germany is deepening the national hatred and hardening their resolve to make an end of military terrorism. A captured letter, written by one German soldier to another, gives some indication of what is hap-

pening in the occupied territory. He says:
"I am attached to the requisitioning services in Fourties district. We take from the French population all their lead, tin, copper, cork oil, etc. Candelsticks, kitchen pots, or anything at all like that, goes off to Germany. It is not very nice often to have to take their wedding presents or the necessary of war forces to us. I had a good haul the other day with one of my comrades. In a walled-up room we found fifteen instruments in copper, a regular brass band and fifty pairs of sheets and towels and six candlesticks of beaten copper. These alone weighed 33 kilos. And there was a whole lot of stuff besides. You can imagine what kind of a noise the old hag who owned them made. I just laughed. She deserved all she got. There was ten thousand marks' worth of stuff there, for I didn't count a lot of bags of pure sheep's wool and lots of other things. The commandant was very pleased and we ought to raise a reward."

"What wonder that the 'old hag' made a noise when she saw her candlesticks, probably family heirlooms, on the way to Germany to make ammunition to be used in killing her country's defenders? From the wretched Hun just laughed. But those who see the extent of France's loss in blood and treasure do not wonder at President Poincaré's declaration that to stop the war today too soon would be to deliver France into the most degrading servitude--to a moral and material bankruptcy from which nothing would ever deliver her."

BRITONS MUST BE THRIFTY OR GO ON RATIONS
Fearless Food Policy is Announced by Baron Rhondda.

London, Sept. 20. -- Inauguration of a new food economy campaign in Great Britain was announced today by Baron Rhondda, the food controller.
"Most of the time the minimum food-stuff requirements from Canada and the United States during the forthcoming twelve months would be more than 10,000,000 tons, representing an expenditure of £250,000,000. The food controller also announced measures for stabilizing the sugar trade, with a committee in New York to supervise Cuban purchases."

BRITISH MASH ENEMY ON EIGHT-MILE FRONT
Field Marshal Haig's Forces Take Two Thousand Prisoners, Many Villages, Woods, Farms, in Resumed Offensive Along Menin Road--Most Remarkable Achievement for Many Months.

London, Sept. 20. -- Two thousand prisoners have been captured by the British, according to the official report tonight, in the Flanders drive. Field Marshal Haig's official report says that north country and Australian battalions penetrated the German positions in the centre to a depth of over a mile and captured the whole of Hamlet, Veldhoek and the western portion of Polygon Wood. Further north Zventoeke was captured, among other strategic positions.
The text of the report from Field Marshal Haig tonight follows:
"our attack this morning east of Ypres was made on a front of about eight miles between the Ypres-Comines railway and the Ypres-Staden railway. Great success attended our troops, and positions of considerable military importance have been won. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy.
"The assembling of the regiments detailed for the attack was carried out without incident, although rain fell steadily during the night. Our first objectives, captured at an early hour, included a number of concrete, strong points, and fortified farms, for the possession of which heavy fighting had taken place during previous attacks.
"North country regiments carried the Yverness, Coppe, Australian troops stormed Glorecoor Wood and Nonnebochen. North and South African brigades took Popsdam, Vampyre and Borry farms. West Lancashire territorials carried Iberian farm and the strong point known as Gallipoli. Our troops then advanced to assault their final objectives.
"At Final Objectives.
"our right English county troops reached the line of their final objectives after sharp fighting in the woods north of the Ypres-Comines Canal and in the neighborhood of Tower Hamlets. In the centre, north country and Australian battalions penetrated the German positions to a depth of over a mile and captured the whole of the fortification, including hamlets Voeckelke and the western portion of Polygon Wood.
"Further north, Zeventoeke was captured and London and Highland territorials carried the second line of objectives, including Rosa farm, Quebec farm and Wurst farm on the line of their final objectives.
"During the morning the weather

U. S. SHOULD SEND ARMY OF TWO MILLION MEN
Small Expedition Would Sacrifice Manpower, Says Dr. Rand.

New York, Sept. 20. -- Dr. Benjamin Rand of Harvard University who has just returned from the west front where he watched the operations of the British army, said today, in his opinion the United States should send an army of two million men abroad to help wage the fight, if the war with Germany is to be won.
A small expeditionary force, said Dr. Rand, would mean undue sacrifice of man-power, which experience England went through early in the war, because she could not help herself, being compelled to use what available troops were at her disposal.
"Insasmuch," he said, "as today the lines of the Germans are unevenly held, it is the opportunity for America, if only her forces are in sufficient number, to throw such strength against the weakened sections of the great western front, as to carry the war to a successful conclusion."
Dr. Rand also visited the British grand staff.

Rolly Harris at a Standstill
The Bloor street viaduct was driven over before the Quebec bridge was joined up. But it looks as if the government will hear Rolly Harris in getting the rails across.

GENUINELY GOOD HATS.
This Friday and Saturday will be feature days for genuine London-made Christy's, the redoubtable hat felt, otherwise the reliable "Christy style." New fall styles, regular \$2.50, for \$2.65.
An important soft felt in the seasonable colors, fall styles and weights, also a \$2.50 value, for \$2.65.
The Italian Barbisio, new styles, fall colors--a genuine fine texture Italian felt. Regular \$5.00, for \$4.50.
Get a genuinely good hat at Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

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PARLAMENT HAS PROROGUED LIBERALS' PROTESTS FUTLE
Session of Many Months' Duration Concluded Shortly Before 6 p.m., Senate's Amendments to Franchise Bill Having Been Accepted--Department of National Service is Abolished.

Ottawa, Sept. 20. -- Parliament has prorogued. Shortly before six o'clock, when some of the final questions were being up as to the administration of the franchise bill, Black Rod summoned the members of the house to the senate and in a few moments the session was at an end.
Nova Scotia members in the house made a final complaint against the senate amendments to the franchise bill. A. K. Maclean terms the principle of the legislation "abominable" and Mr. Sinclair asserted that the senate amendments were a piece of partisan injustice. In reply to this Hon. Arthur Meighen claimed that the amendment had been prepared by Liberal members in the senate and consented to by Conservatives.
Just before prorogation R. B. Bennett informed the house that the department of national service had ceased to exist, and sketched the work accomplished in regard to registration.
The speech from the throne as read by his excellency the governor-general was as follows:
Speech From Throne.
The speech from the throne was as follows:

Honorable gentlemen of the senate:
Gentlemen of the house of commons:
Important measures for the effective prosecution of the war have engaged your close attention during a long session, and I am now happy to release you from further attendance.
Since your labors began, the high and worthy character of our cause has been confirmed by two significant events. Our allies, the Russian people, are engaged, under trying circumstances, in establishing institutions which shall fully conform to their ideal of liberty and order. In the midst of inevitable difficulties, which command our sympathy, they have affirmed their determination to remain faithful to the alliance.
The United States of America, refusing to tolerate the arrogance and menace of Prussian militarism, have made common cause with the allies and are vigorously co-operating in the struggle for freedom and humanity. Already the Canadian people have given many expressions of the warm welcome with which they greet their kindred neighbor as a comrade in arms.
The meetings of the imperial war cabinet and imperial war conference

in the early part of the year have very materially facilitated the thoro co-operation of the Dominion, both in preparation for the future. They constitute also an important step in the development of constitutional relationships between the nations of the British commonwealth.
Utmost Effort Needed.
Notwithstanding the increasing military strength of the allied nations, the stubborn resistance of the enemy in all important theatres of the war demonstrates the need of throwing our utmost effort into the struggle; and thus hastening the day of abiding peace. In the western theatre the Canadian army corps, by its capture of the coveted Vimy Ridge, and by its recent operations at Lens, has sustained a distinguished record and contributed an important measure to the ascendancy which the allies have gained in that theatre.
In order to secure the reinforcements essential for the support of our forces further steps have become necessary. The authorized reinforcements, by compulsory military enlistment on a selective basis will meet the urgent need for reinforcements. At the same time will provide the means for conserving more effectively the essential agricultural and industrial activities of the Dominion.
Legislation Reviewed.
You have recognized your duty in providing the best possible safeguards for enabling those engaged in the defence of their country to have their voice in the decision of national questions which vitally affect them. For

(Concluded on Page 4, Column 4.)

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in rich color treat-
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Today special
12 1/2
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shades, size 9 ft.
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Sign the Food Service Pledge
(Concluded on Page 7, Column 3.)