The St. John Standard

BUY W.S.S. WAR-SAVINGS STAMPS

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OFFICERS GET SOME ADVERSE CRITICISM

Justice Hodgin's Report on Northland Findings Scores Commanding Officer and Non-Commissioned Officers.

MEN FAILED TO OBSERVE DISCIPLINE

Complaints of Eating and Sleeping Quarters Are Fully Justified According to the Report Submitted.

PROPER SYSTEM WHOLLY LACKING

No One Took Direct or Personal Oversight Over the Men's Comfort and Discipline.

Ottawa, Jan. 29.—Both officers in charge and the non-commissioned officers and men returning on the steamship Northland came in for adverse criticism in the report of Mr. Justice Hodgins on the voyage of that troopship last month, an investigation into the conditions of which was instituted early in January.

The report which has just been received by the government, is a comprehensive one, comprising nearly forty typewritten pages.

The men, particularly the non-commissioned officers, are blamed for their failure to observe the usual military discipline and to perform the duties expected of them in the matter of cleaning of latrines, and eating and sleeping quarters. Their complaints regarding the latter, however, are considered as fully justified, while on the question of food their complaints are, in the main, sympathetically upheld.

In the latter respect the lack of a proper system of serving, and the fact that the ship's galley was situated too remote from the places where the meals were served, are held as primarily responsible.

With the military officers—both the conducting party and those in charge of the district troops—Mr. Justice Hodgins is less sympathetic.

"I find," says Judge Hodgins, "that no one in the conducting staff took personal, direct and continuous control or oversight of the men's comfort and discipline, and that there was no one in the galley who was familiar with the proper scale of rations, and that the result was confusion and dissatisfaction which might have been remedied by taking it in hand at once."

In reaching his conclusions, the commissioner states:

"I acknowledge the candour and sincerity of the officer commanding troops who has returned from over two and a half years through campaigns which included St. Eloi, Regina Trench, Vimy Ridge, Hill 70 and Passchendaele and also of his staff, and it is a question whether, after the war experience I have referred to, it would be fair to ask any officer to take the position if fit is to be other than as he viewed it and as needing activity and concentration."

The report says that no ill-feeling between officers and men existed aboard the "Northland," and states that, had it not been for the holding-up of the ship by the health officer at Halifax, who suspected a case of smallpox, and the bitter disappointment of the men at being compelled to spend Christmas day aboard under trying conditions, little might have been heard of the voyage in the way of complaints.

JOHNSON MAYOR OF ST. STEPHEN

Special to The Standard.

St. Stephen, N.B., Jan. 29.—The town election, held today, resulted in the return of David Johnson for mayor, defeating Walter G. Dewolfe by twenty-one votes. The councillors are Arthur R. McKenzie and Eugene Thornton by acclamation in Queens ward; George H. Budd and D. A. Nesbitt defeating LeRoy W. Hill in Kings ward; J. Bert Polley and James B. Brown defeating H. E. Beek and Clifford Mowatt in Dukes ward.

Hindenburg Wants William Back

Paris, Jan. 29.—Field Marshal von Hindenburg, according to the Echo de Paris, is endeavoring to bring about the return of former Emperor William, after the meeting of the National Assembly. Leading German manufacturers in Westphalai are said to be interested in the plan. The newspaper adds that the former emperor wrote to Premier Ebert that he would accept whatever residence in Germany was assigned to him. Ebert is said to have replied that only the national assembly would be qualified to decide the question.

MONCTON TEACHERS GET INCREASE

Substantial Addition to be Made on Their Pay Checks—Evangelical Alliance Has Scrap With School Board.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Jan. 29—The Moncton School Board tonight granted an increase of $200 a year for every teacher on the city schools staff, and an increase of $350 to Principal Geo. J. Oulton. The advance in teachers salaries increased the schools estimates by $13,000, making the total schools appropriation this year $86,795.60.

There has been quite a spirited controversy going on between the Evangelical Alliance, and one member of the Alliance, Rev. Bowley Green and the School Board with regard to more school accommodation. At tonight's meeting of the School Board the subject was further discussed, and Chairman J. T. Hawke assumed a defiant attitude towards the Evangelistic Alliance. He declared, with some heat, that he had lost all respect for the Evangelistic Alliance, and that so long as they maintained their present attitude towards him, as manifested in a recent resolution, he would never allow any resolutions passed by the Evangelistic Alliance to appear in his paper. In connection with the differences between the editor of the Transcript and the Evangelistic Alliance, it is of interest to note that the trouble dates back ta the last Dominion election.

NEW ARMIES WILL FORM FEBRUARY 1ST

Regulations Governing British Armies of Occupation Announced by Secretary of War.

London, Jan. 29.—The regulations governing the armies of occupation are dealt with in an official statement issued here tonight by Winston Spencer Churchill, Secretary for War. The statement says:

"The British military commanders are of the opinion that nine hundred thousand men are sufficient for the transition period. All the rest will be demobilized as fast as possible.

"The new armies will begin forming February 1, and will be composed, in the first instance, of those who have enlisted since January 1, 1916, and who do not exceed 37 years of age. Volunteers will be accepted for one year's service from among men otherwise entitled to releease, while sixty-nine battalions of young soldiers now on home service will be sent immediately to help guard the Rhine bridgeheads and release the older men.

AIR FORCE WITH RHINELAND ARMY

Selected on Same Basis and With Same Emoluments as Other Branches of Service.

London, Jan. 29.—The air force, with the armies of occupation, says an official announcement tonight, has been selected on the same basis and with the same emoluments as the other branches of the service. Six thousand five hundred officers and seventy-five thousand men will be retained out of approximately three hundred thousand.

DRASTIC IMPORT REGULATION BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT HOME INDUSTRIES

Washington, Jan. 29.—Drastic import regulations, covering a wide range of commodities and effective March 1, have been promulgated by the British government for the protection of its industries, during the period of reconstruction. The restricted list was made public here tonight by the War Trade Board on advices from Consul General Skinner at London.

Commodities not on the list may be imported without special British import licenses until July 1, the announcement said, and restrictions on the importation of syrup, molasses and other articles of like nature will be removed in February. Raw hides of all kinds, also, will be admitted.

Commodities, which may not be imported into Great Britain, after March 1 without special licenses, range all the way from essentials to luxuries.

The War Trade Board's announcement said the restrictions were not to be regarded as of a permanent nature and that they were necessary in order that Great Britain might "bring her own manufacturers to a state of stability approaching that of pre-war days.

For more than four years, said the announcement, Great Britain has been subject to the shock and strain of war, which not only required the sacrifice of life and limb and intense human energy but also necessitated the most stringent economic readjustment and the sacrifice of private business. It is not strange, therefore, that Great Britain should today wish to make every legitimate effort to keep her commercial and economic status from falling into chaos.

BOLSHEVIKI MOST POWERFUL PROPAGANDA IS THE ALLIES' INVITATION TO RUSSIAN FACTIONS FOR CONFERENCE SAYS ALEXANDER

The Day of the Allies' Decision Was One of Bolsheviki Greatest Victories and Will be Proclaimed by Them in Russia as an Acknowledgement of Their Power and Inconquerability—Says Allies Must Step in and Down Bolshevism or Russia is Hopelessly Lost.

By Wade Chance.

(Special cable to The St. John Standard and New York Tribune. Copyright, 1919, New York Tribune, Inc.)

Paris, Jan. 28.—Grand Duke Alexander, first cousin and brother-in-law of the late Czar, freely expressed today his views regarding the decision of the Allies to meet Bolsheviki and other Russian factional delegates at Prince's Island, in the Sea of Marmora on February 15. The Grand Duke, who is living here, said:

"When I read the news I was in despair. The day of the Allies' decision was the day of greatest victory for the Bolsheviki, and you will see it proclaimed by them in Russia as an acknowledgment on the part of all the peoples of the world of their power and unconquerability.

"What powerful propaganda material this places in their hands! It crushes me; my last hope is gone. I felt today that I had no longer a wish to live. I faced death daily for five months, and it has no terrors for me. But there seems to be no justice in the world.

"Many Russian officers have come to me, expressing the same feeling. In fact every one I saw, of whatever nationality, felt the same—it is the beginning of the end.

"Now I wish to make a last appeal to the American people who, in common sense, must understand that the Bolsheviki fight not only the intellectuals, the aristocracy and the bourgeoisie, but war also upon democracy itself, even your American democracy.

"The adoption by the conference of Mr. Wilson's plan to negotiate with the Bolsheviki could only mean a concession to what the delegates believe to be American public opinion. Does America concur?

"President Wilson called the revolution following the fall of the Czar a democracy, and now that out of that revolution has evolved a saturnalia of crime he dignifies it with the term revolution and would thus make patriots out of assassins. By proposing a cessation of hostilities outside of Russia, only the Bolshevik armies would be free to throw themselves upon the few brave men who are still fighting for the Allied cause within Russia, and upon the helpless Russian people already made mad with despair. What recourse have they but to seek protection from Germany? For Germany, you may be sure, will be the first country to free itself from Bolshevism.

"What crimes are still to be committed in the name of Allied diplomacy?

"I am only a poor, outlawed Russian grand duke, but I love my country, and desire only that the Russian people should be able to live and breathe freely. If I can help, even only a little, I shall be happy.

"I never expect to live in Russia again. I am for no party. I am only a good Russian patriot, and open my soul to the free people of America in this despairing hour.

"I have always been in sympathy with the democratic United States, where you have created a great republic in so short a time. During the two years or more of your neutrality I had many doubts, but when you came into the war I knew I had been right in my feeling of trust and affection for the American spirit.

"America as one man fought Germany in the name of justice and liberty, but how much more quickly than should she fight the Bolsheviki, who are a million times worse! Germany aimed only to be a conqueror, but Bolshevism would destroy civilization itself.

(Continued on page 2)

BRITISH HAVE MANY DUTIES FOR ITS ARMY TO PERFORM

Will Not be Asked to Keep Many Soldiers in the Rhineland, That Country Being Left Largely to United States and France—Other Obligations Will Not Allow Thoughtless or Wholesale Demobilization.

London, Jan. 29.—The British contribution to the Allied armies of occupation in the Rhineland, says the Times in an editorial today, will be less, numerically, than that of either France or the United States, consideration having been given to the part played in the war by the British navy and to British responsibilities in other parts of the world. "What we have been asked to do," the paper says, "will not involve the prolonged retention in the army of more than one man in four of those serving at the beginning of November. Enormous quantities of war material are being salvaged, and men at home are still required for garrison duty, coast defense and the maintenance of internal order. In Palestine, Mesopotamia and Turkey we have serious commitments and there are garrisons to be maintained at Gibraltar and Malta, and in the crown colonies. In India the army will remain at something like its strength before the war. In the circumstances, demobilization cannot be carried through thoughtlessly or in a wholesale manner."

WANT PERMISSION TO GO HOME

Ukranians in Hamilton Petition Dominion Gov't to be Allowed to Return to Their Home in Europe.

Hamilton, Ont., Jan. 29—Ukrainians, residents of this city held a mass meeting last night and decided to ask the Dominion government to permit them to return to their homes in Europe. Following is a copy of a telegram sent today to the secretary of state in Ottawa as a result of the meeting:

"We Ukrainians, of Hamilton, assembled at a mass meeting, one thousand in number, have decided to inform the government that during the war three hundred thousand of the Ukrainians in Canada made no trespass which could be called any kind of treason, but on the contrary we Canadian Ukrainians, being as well hostile toward Austria as Czecho Slovaks and seeing in the defeat of Austro-Hungary only the way for resurrection of the Ukraine were peacefully and diligently working through the years of the war supporting Canadian industry and agriculture, buying war loans, etc., and now when there is a feeling in some parts of Canada that our places in industry should be filled by the veterans, and not wishing to fill the ranks of the industrial unemployed army which could be used for reduction of wages in Canada, we ask the government to allow us at once to leave Canada for our old homes in Europe."

HALIFAX HAD TWO BAD FIRES

Property Damaged to the Extent of $75,000.

Halifax, Jan. 29.—Two fires occurred in Halifax this evening, causing a loss of at least $75,000. The first was at seven o'clock when flames broke through a building at the rear of the Waverley House, on Barrington street. It was soon under control, but not till the place was completely gutted. The servants lost most of their belongings and one man lost $100 in cash. The damage is estimated at $2,500.

The second fire at 10 o'clock was a mile north on the same street. It broke out in a three story brick faced wooden structure known as the Rex building. From this it spread to the building at the back, facing on Water street, and both places were in flames. The Rex building is owned by John Simon, and in it were the Olympic Cafe, Stitchbury's confectionary, Rex Dancing Academy, Earl's billiard parlor, and R. L. Archibald's automobile show rooms. In the Water street building were Dresner's clothing store and Louis Levine's clothing store. The top floor was occupied by lodgers. The amount of insurance was not obtainable, but there were several policies. Building and stock damage is estimated at $75,000.

FUR SALES ENDED WEDNESDAY

Total Sales Amounted to $9,550,000—Greatest Sale Ever Held.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 29.—The nine-day mid-winter fur auction ended tonight with total sales amounting to $9,550,000. Buyers claimed it was the greatest sale ever held. More than 8,000,000 pelts including virtually everything from house cat to Russian sable were disposed of, prices ranging from one cent to $100 a pelt. Today's sales included 1,000,000 muskrats which brought $1,100,000.

LABOR BUREAU

Paris, Jan. 29.—(By the Associated Press)—The British plans for an international labor bureau have been completed and forwarded to London for consideration by the employers. As soon as they are returned here they will be laid before the peace conference, coming as the British view.

Imperial War Cabinet Takes Wilson's Theory

Bulletin—London, Thursday, Jan. 30—The British Imperial War Cabinet has accepted President Wilson's theory of internationalization as applied to the captured German colonies, notwithstanding energetic protests from the representatives of the dominions, says the Daily Mail's Paris correspondent.

"These protests," says the correspondent, "have been of the gravest character. The South African representatives believe acceptance will give the greatest encouragement to the rebel element in South Africa which it ever has received during British administration. The Australian delegates fear that Australian public opinion will regard it as extremely unsatisfactory and inexplicable. The dominion representatives generally, though very reticent, are greatly perturbed."

WM. E. STAVERT CREATED KNIGHT

Tireless and Energetic Work in Red Cross Calls Forth Deserved Recognition.

London, Jan. 29.—(By Canadian Press)—William E. Ewan Stavert, of the Bank of Montreal, and recently director of finance at the British Ministry of Information, has been created a knight of the order from the Empire.

Montreal, Jan. 29—Sir W. E. Stavert first became well known in the Bank of Nova Scotia, of which he opened three of their most importatn branches, namely, at Kingston, Jamaica; St. John's, Nfld., and then at Boston, Mass. From being manager of the Boston branch he went to the Bank of New Brunswick as general manager at Fredericton. From there he came to the Bank of Montreal in this city with the title of superintendent of maritime province branches. Mr. Stavert left the Bank of Montreal in 1912 and went to Salt Se. Marie as president of the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company, Limited, and he was also connected for some time with the Bank of Montreal, acting for it as the curator of the Ontario Bank, and he then became sole trustee on behalf of the guarantors of the Sovereign Bank.

Early in the war Mr. Stavert relinquished all his business activities here and went overseas, where he threw himself into war work in London. There he was more particularly associated with the work of the Canadian Red Cross, particularly on behalf of prisoners of war. Over a year ago when the ministry of information was established, with Lord Beaverbrook at its head, he was invited to become director of finance for that department, and presumably the honor is bestowed in recognition of the services rendered in that capacity, and also in the Red Cross.

Lady Stavart is residing in Montreal.

C. N. R. WERE UNDER DISADVANTAGES

Megantic Arriving One Day Ahead of Schedule Caught Staff Unprepared.

Toronto, Jan. 29.—The management of the Canadian National Railways here have received the following information by wire from a representative at ship side in Halifax:

The trains from the Megantic left at 9.15 p. m., 10 p. m., and 10.30 p. m. The work of ticketting was slow owing to the fact that the steamer arrived a day before date given by the Admiralty. Another cause was that wives and dependents of soldiers were given orders in England for third-class tickets to destination. These in many cases had to be changed to tourist tickets. The handling of the baggage from the steamer also consumed considerable time. The arrival of the steamer a day before she was expected found a number of the best men on the Halifax ticketting staff of the Canadian National Railways out on the line with reports recently handled. Accordingly the usual staff of experienced men were not on hand at Halifax while the Megantic came in. Those that were there kept pace with the military staff, but were hampered by the crowding consequent upon delay. Under the circumstances the men of the Canadian National Railway did excellent work.

THE GERMAN ARMY NUMBERS ABOUT 500,000

These Soldiers Are of Such Morale That They Will Hardly be Available for Operations of Any Extent.

VOLUNTEER ARMY NUMBERS 300,000

They Are of Doubtful Morale and Are Organized to Stop Bolshevik Invasions of German Territory.

TROOPS DRAWING PAY AND DOING LITTLE

40,000 Men in Region of Frankfort-on-the-Ober—Many Volunteers Moving Northward.

Coblenz, Jan. 29.—According to estimates by the intelligence officers of the American third army, based upon reports from all parts of Germany, the organized German army now located in various depots numbers from 300,000 to 500,000. The reports indicate that these soldiers are of such morale that they hardly will be available for operations of any extent. The number of men in the army, according to reports reaching Coblnez is decreasing rapidly.

The new volunteer army numbers between 100,000 and 300,000 men of doubtful morale, as they have not yet been organized fully or tested fairly. The volunteer army, which is being organized for the purpose of stopping Polish and Bolshevik invasions of German territory, has 40,000 men in the region of Frankfort-on-the-Oder. Many volunteer battalions also are reported moving eastward.

The organized German army consists of the classes of 1898 and 1899 less some discharged because they live in occupied territory, less large numbers of deserters and less some discharged according to demobilization plans. The officers and non-commissioned officers of this army are men who intend to remain permanently in the service.

Evidence is said to be conclusive that the troops now in the depots have assumed the attitude of drawing their pay and doing as little as possible until they are discharged.

In arriving at the number of men in the organized army, the troops which have been unable to return from the eastern front, are disregarded as they generally come from the older classes, and are being discharged as soon as they reach Germany. No account has been taken of the naval units which are demoralized and disbanding rapidly.

MARITIME ROTARY CONVENTION WED.

President Wigmore of St. John Had Prominent Part—An Enthusiastic Gathering.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N.S., Jan. 29.—The Maritime Rotary convention today went with a good swing. In the morning registration took place and the visitors from St. John and Charlottetown were given a cordial and whole-hearted reception. At noon the usual weekly luncheon was held when the chief speaker was E. Leslie Pidgeon, President of the International Rotary. In the afternoon reports from the St. John, Charlottetown and Halifax clubs were received. The big event was the banquet in the evening at which Governor MacCallum Grant, Premier Murray and other notable men were present. President Wigmore, of St. John and Governor Estabrooks had prominent seats. President Pidgeon gave an address on the ideals and aims of the Rotary, and there were short speeches by others. A vote of thanks to Mr. Pidgeon was moved by President Wigmore, and carried with enthusiasm.

BUENOS AIRES PORT STRIKE WILL CONTINUE INDEFINITELY; 9,000 OUT

At Conference Yesterday Strikers and Employers Failed to Reach an Agreement—Reported That a General Strike Will Commence on March 1st.

Buenos Ayres, Jan. 29.—Leaders of the Maritime Workers announce that as a result of the failure of the recent negotiations between the strikers and employers, they have organized to continue the port strike indefinitely. Nine thousand maritime workers are now out. During the last few days 7,500 tobacco workers and 1,500 furniture movers have struck, these movements, in addition to partial strikes, affecting eight building trades unions.

It is persistently reported that a general strike will be commenced on March 1. Laborers assert that the recent outbreak was premature, and that the "real trouble" had been fixed for March 1, when it had been planned to call a strike of all workers, including house servants and food purveyors. The labor federation has been working for some time to prevent the hiring of servants except by housewives certified by the federation. President Irigoyen has proposed to the cabinet a bill for compulsory insurance for house servants, employers paying the dues.

GOVERNMENT HELP TO SHIP LOSERS

Standard Ships Under Construction Are to be Taken Over by Group of Owners in Proportion to Their Losses in War.

London, Jan. 29—The arrangements recently announced under which standard ships of the ocean going type, now under construction for the government, are to be taken over by a group of ship owners for distribution, in proportion to their losses, is likely to be followed by similar arrangements with regard to vessels of smaller types. These latter vessels include ships from 1,000 to 5,000 tons dead weight, as well as several types of craft especially designed to meet the needs of the coasting and short line trades. It is understood that the president of the Chamber of Shipping has been asked to take up the matter.

LIQUOR CASE TO APPEAL COURT

Famous Vancouver Whiskey Case to Have an Airing in the Court of Appeals.

Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 29.—Notice is being given of an appeal to the April sitting of the Court of Appeal against the judgment of Chief Justice Hunter, holding the liquor inquiry to be invalid, and granting A. L. Gartshore a writ of prohibition, restraining the provincial municipalities from summoning him before the enquiry as a witness. The appeal is being given in the name of the commissioners, Mr. Justice Clements and the attorney general.

SENTENCED TO HANG

Edmonton, Alta., Jan. 29.—James Arthur Campbell, who was yesterday found guilty of the murder of Sam Zappler, was today sentenced to be hanged on April 23 by Justice Walsh.

YPRES TO BE RETAINED IN PRESENT CONDITION AS LASTING MEMORIAL

It Was the Scene of Many Battles Between British and Germans and the Decision of Belgium to Make it a Permanent Memorial Meets With Hearty Endorsement by Press and Public.

London, Jan. 29.—(British Wireless Service)—The decision of the Belgian government to maintain Ypres, the scene of several battles between the British and Germans in its present condition as a permanent memorial, is endorsed heartily by British press and public opinion.

"Ypres will be memorial," says the Westminster Gazette, "in which future generations may learn the horrors of war. There is nothing more impressive than the sight of the stricken city, with the skeletons of its once wonderful buildings rising gaunt into the sky. In a sense there are few things more beautiful. To patch it up would be impossible. Everyone, therefore, will welcome the decision that the remains of the old city shall be left intact instead of being cleared away.

"The east abounds in the ruins of the last vestiges of once glorious civilization which have been overthrown. Ypres will stand for centuries as a reminder that civilization itself cannot be overthrown, and as a monument to the generation sacrificed in its defense."