HOW CANADA WELCOMES HER RETURNING SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Citizens of St. John, New Brunswick, Offer in Canada's Name A Royal Greeting to Canada's Heroes, and Give the Brides From Overseas a Cordial Welcome to the Land of Their Adoption.

In the sunshine of peace, our soldiers return to their native land, the dark cloud of warfare lifted—the cloud under which they left our shores and embarked on the great adventure—but the boys do not come back, they are gone forever. In their place come men, men who have proven their manhood, whose spurs, spiritual and military, have been won in desperate conflict. Many who left in a state of single unblessedness, married the first year of the war, and are returning with wives and children; others are bringing their brides, who make the adventure into matrimony and Canada on the same trip. This return in dual or triple form, calls for a reception differing from that accorded to mere man accustomed to the rigors of camp life, but the great-hearted men and women of St. John, New Brunswick, know just how to express the feeling of Canada for those who return and for those who are new members of our large family.

St. John, Not St. Peter, at the Door.

By virtue of the geographical location of St. John, its citizens have become Canada's official welcomers of our returned soldiers, and right royally as the old city, down by the sea, open wide its doors and extend the warm hand of welcome, and to the homesick men who have been yearning for a glimpse of their native land through years of the horrors of war, this seems indeed the very Gate of Heaven.

To some of the wives coming from overseas, the prospect was not one of unalloyed bliss, for mischievous pens and tongues had set a mental wave in motion, that made the English, Scotch and Irish brides fear that some of the Canadian homes might have preferred Canadian brides for their sons. However, their reception by the women and the men of St. John banished all such fears. As one of the brides confided to a member of the reception committee, "We were told in England that Canadian women would greet us with bad eggs, but instead we have been treated like royalty." Canada recognizes in these young women from the British Isles, these whose kindness in hours of loneliness has won the hearts of our boys, the kind of women who, with few exceptions, are the type of citizens of whom Canada will be justly proud.

The soldiers' reception committee of men and women has done valiant service ever since the beginning of the war, in meeting boats and trains, early and late, and distributing comforts. With the prospect of thousands of women and children coming in addition to the soldiers, when the Armistice was declared, it was felt that only by thorough organization could the situation be met. A Citizens' Welcome Committee was formed of nationally organized societies, such as the Young Women's Christian Association, The Red Cross, the I.O.D.E., the W.C.T.U., Protestants of all denominations, and Roman Catholic Societies, all working together harmoniously, subdividing the work in such a manner that every detail that may add to the comfort of guests is attended to. Having secured permission from the Dominion Government, the Dominion Council of the Y.W.C.A. extended the work of its Travellers' Aid Department to meet this emergency, by placing two efficient national workers, Miss Perry and Miss Woods, in charge of a reception and rest room for those returning, especially the women and children.

A Haven of Rest.

A spacious room in the Imigration Building was prepared by the military authorities. The Y.W.C.A. Hostess Houses of Ontario shipped their no longer needed furniture, and with the splendid local assistance, the rooms were arranged. Bright, airy and warm, they are a perfect haven of rest to the weary women and children, who on one occasion numbered nine hundred, over three hundred being children. Though the accommodation was supposed to be adequate for four hundred, the larger party was satisfactorily handled.

One side of the long room has a row of dainty white cots, which soon are filled with travel-worn occupants. Opening off this large reception room is a smaller room, filled with beds for those who are ill, and off this, a nursery and lavatory, where unlimited supplies of hot and cold water, towels and soap, turn out "new women and babies for old." Adjoining this is the Red Cross dispensary, with a trained nurse in charge, for supplies and medicines and everything a baby, sick or well, could possibly want, are given out.

Back of this is the kitchen, and connecting with the reception room is a serving-table, where, under the direction of one of the Y.W.C.A. workers, the local V.A.D.'s serve hot drinks, sandwiches and cakes.

When the boat docks the only ones allowed to go on board are Miss Perry, Y.W.C.A., and Mrs. Lawrence, the Red Cross Secretary.

Off the boat, up the long stairs, and "Welcome Home" says the great streamer at the head. Along through the Immigration offices all must pass, and many have a long wait. The welcome is repeated by voice and handclasp of the ladies of the Reception Committee, who keep the babies and the bundles, so that Mother can attend to her papers with a free hand and a free mind. This done, all move on to the Rest Room, which, with its dainty curtains, easy chairs, bright chintz cushions, piano, reading and writing tables, is most inviting to the sea-sick travellers. Outside the Rest Room are the Y.M.C.A., the Salvation Army, and the Knights of Columbus booths, which cater to the needs, internal and external, of the soldier. The Military Information Bureau and the C.P.R. offices do a land office business in answering questions, and the Patriotic Fund booth aids the soldier or his dependent financially, if necessary.

Rested and refreshed, the next step in the long journey must be arranged. The local assistants and the Y.W.C.A. secretaries are everywhere, ascertaining destinations, seeing that babies, bundles, bags and boxes are collected, for the first train to pull out. The Red Cross superintendent sees that a nurse, with full equipment of supplies, and loads of extra blankets, is on every train. This is one of the greatest of comforts to those with small children. This goes on all day, welcoming the coming, and speeding the departing guest, until the last train load disappears, possibly at eight or nine o'clock at night, if, as sometimes happens, several thousands arrive the same day.

A Long Chain of Welcome.

This fine piece of National Service, warmly welcoming our own men and those whom they bring with them, does not begin or end here. Its source was in the sending to England as soon as hostilities ceased, of the Y.W.C.A. National Immigration Secretary, Mrs. Burrington-Ham, who went to the authorities to secure space in which to open a Bureau for the information of soldiers' dependents coming over. After many difficulties and delays this was accomplished, and Mrs. Burrington-Ham's assistance was of the greatest value to the women. "The Godmother," as they appreciatively called her, succeeded in placing upon each boat bringing a number of women and children, a Ship Secretary, who looks after their needs in every possible way, aiding the sick, cheering the well, carrying babies, and when the time and mal de mer permit, giving talks on conditions in different parts of Canada, that newcomers may not be utterly at sea when they land. Motherless children coming with their fathers are her especial charge, until placed with friends. The end of this work—but then we cannot speak of the end of the infinite, but rather the follow-up work of the port service—consists in writing to the Y.W.C.A. secretaries in each town or city to which the newcomers go, and asking that they locate them as soon as possible, call upon them, put them in touch with a Church of their denomination, and do all possible to make this new land a home land to these welcome members of the nation's family. Letters of appreciation from East and West pay tribute to this great interest taken by the Canadian women. This long chain of Welcome from England to the Pacific demonstrates, in magnified form, the work that has been carried on for years by the Y.W.C.A. Immigration and Travellers' Aid Departments. Its scope and fitness are such as appeal to the imagination of many who cannot be there in person, but who can, by financial support, strengthen the hands of the workers. The coming big drive of the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. gives to all an opportunity of assistance in this great work.

If we truly value the sacrifice of our men in the tragic days just past, if we realize the difficulty of those returning to the different struggle of the wage-earning civilian, and if we realize even dimly the tremendous crisis we are facing, let us, as loyal Canadian men and women, leave nothing undone to continue individually this magnificent work in every community to which our men and women come, that we may make them one with us for a greater and nobler Canada.

QUEBEC WANTS WINE AND BEER

Both City and Country Gave Affirmative Vote on Referendum.

A despatch from Montreal says:—By a majority of 100,000 votes the Province of Quebec pronounced itself in favor of light wines and beer on the referendum voted on Thursday. At least fifty per cent of the voters went to the polls out of the 400,000 registered. Both cities and country districts were in favor of the restoration of licenses.

The island of Montreal contributed a majority of 61,799, and returns from Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Quebec City and Hull also showed substantial majorities. The surprise came from the agricultural districts which have been "dry" several years past. Counties like L'Assomption, with 1,219 for, to 64 against, and Soulanges, with 1,105 for to 94 against, are typical. The figures of 1,000 polls in the Quebec district showed 56,695 votes cast for beer and light wines and 6,407 for prohibition, while the general proportion was little better for the "dry" division.

The referendum was decided on by the Provincial Legislature to settle the future liquor question. In 1918 the Legislature passed a total prohibition measure to come into effect on May 1, 1919, for "the duration of the war." The war ending before the act could be applied, the Government compromised on the demands made from the liquor faction, who demanded a continuance of complete "wet" privileges and those calling for the enforcement of the Act by submitting the question of the sale of beer and wine alone to the electors.

Canadian Deserters Shot Both in England and at the Front

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Hon. Hugh Guthrie stated in the Commons that he had been informed that a number of Canadian deserters overseas had been executed. Others had received sentences up to 30 years. He said the punishments in England were more severe than in this country.

General Hughes said they had been tried by court-martial and shot, both in England and at the front.

Body of Nurse Edith Cavell Will be Removed to England

A despatch from London says:—Arrangements are being made, it is understood, for the removal of the body of Edith Cavell, the English nurse executed by the Germans at Brussels in 1915, to this country. The reinterment of the body in English soil will be made the occasion of an extensive public ceremonial.

Poison Gas to be Utilized For Destruction of Larvae

A despatch from Paris says:—Poison gas, that worked such havoc during the war, will be utilized for a very different and beneficent purpose in the future, it is announced in scientific circles. Gabriel Bertrand, of the Pasteur Institute, informed the Academy of Sciences that he has discovered a method by which such gas might be applied for the destruction of caterpillars and injurious larvae, which had worked destructively on tree growths in the country districts during the past few years.

PLAN TO INCORPORATE AUSTRIA INTO GERMANY

A despatch from Paris says:—Despatches from Vienna announce the arrival there of a German delegation, which has opened negotiations for the incorporation of Austria in Germany.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, Apl. 15—Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.24½; No. 2 Northern, $2.21½; No. 3 Northern, $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.11½, in store Fort William.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 71⅞c; No. 3 C.W., 68⅞c; extra No. 1 feed, 68⅞c; No. 1 feed, 66⅞c; No. 2 feed, 63⅝c, in store Fort William.

Manitoba barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.03¼c; No. 4 C.W., 98¼c; rejected, 91¾c; feed, 91¾c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.80; No. 4 yellow, $1.77, track Toronto, prompt shipment.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 70 to 72c; No. 3 white, 68 to 70c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 1 winter, per car lot, $2.14 to $2.20; No. 2 do, $2.11 to $2.19; No. 3 do, $2.07 to $.15 f.o.b. shipping points, according to freights.

Ontario wheat—No. 1 Spring, $2.09 to $2.17; No. 2 do, $2.06 to $2.14; No. 3 do, $2.02 to $2.10 f.o.b. shipping points, according to freights.

Peas—No. 2, $1.70 to $1.80, nominal, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, 95c to $1, nominal.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 95c, nominal.

Rye—No. 2, $1.55, nominal.

Manitoba flour—Government standard, $10.75 to $11, Toronto.

Ontario flour—Government standard, $9.65 to $9.75 in bags, Toronto and Montreal, prompt shipment in jute bags.

Millfeed—Car lots delivered, Montreal freights, bags included. Bran, $42 to $48 per ton; shorts, $44 to $48 per ton; good feed flour, $2.70 to $3 per bag.

Hay—No. 1, $24 to $26 per ton; mixed, $22 to $23 per ton, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, $10 to $11 per ton.

Country Produce—Wholesale.

Butter—Dairy, tubs and rolls, 36 to 38c; prints, 40 to 41c. Creamery, fresh made prints, 56 to 58c.

Eggs—New laid, 41 to 43c.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, 26 to 34c; roosters, 25c; fowl, 28 to 33c; ducklings, 32c; turkeys, 45c; squabs, doz., $6.

Live poultry—Roosters, 22c; fowl, 28 to 33c; ducklings, lb., 35c; turkeys, 30c; chickens, 27c.

Cheese—New, large, 28 to 28½c; twins, 28½ to 29c; triplets, 29 to 29½c; Stilton, 29½ to 30c; old, large, 29½ to 30c; twins, 30 to 30½c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 48 to 50c; creamery, solids, 61 to 62c; prints, 62 to 63c.

Margarine—34 to 35c.

Eggs—New laid, 46 to 47c; new laid in cartons, 48 to 49c.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, 35 to 40c; roosters 28 to 30c; fowl, 37 to 38c; turkeys, 45 to 50c; ducklings, lb., 35 to 38c; squabs, doz., $7; geese, 28 to 30c.

Potatoes—Ontarios, f.o.b. track Toronto, car lots, $1.20 to $1.25.

Beans — Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, $3.75 to $4; primes, $2.50 to $3; imported hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $3.25; Limas, 14c.

Honey—Extracted clover: 5-lb. tins, 25 to 26c lb.; 10-lb. tins, 24½ to 25c; 60-lb. tins, 24 to 25c. Buckwheat: 60-lb. tin, 19 to 20c. Comb: 16-oz., $4.50 to $5 doz.; 12-oz., $3.50 to $4 dozen.

Maple products—Syrup, per wine gallon, $1.85; per imperial gallon, $2.30; per 5 gallons, $2.20; sugar, lb., 27 to 28c.

Provisions—Wholesale.

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 37 to 39c; do, heavy, 33 to 34c; cooked, 50 to 52c; rolls, 31 to 32c; breakfast bacon, 41 to 45c; backs, plain, 45 to 46c; boneless, 50 to 52c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 28 to 29c; clear bellies, 27 to 28c.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 29 to 29½c; tubs, 29½ to 30c; pails, 29¾ to 30¼c; prints, 30½ to 31c. Compound tierces 25½ to 25¾c tubs, 25¾c to 26¼c; pails, 26 to 26½c; prints, 27¼ to 27¾c.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, April 15—Oats—Extra No. 1 feed, 83c. Flour—Spring wheat new standard grade, $11 to $11.10. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs., $3.60 to $3.75. Bran, $46 to $47. Shorts, $47 to $48. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $26.50 to $27. Cheese—Finest easterns, 24 to 25c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 62 to 62½c. Eggs—Fresh, 47 to 48c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $1.30 to $1.50. Dressed hogs—Abattoir killed, $27.50 to $28. Lard—Pure, wood pails, 20 lbs. net, 30½ to 31c.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, April 15—Good heavy steers, $14.50 to $16.50; choice butcher steers, $13.25 to $14; butchers' cattle, choice, $13.50 to $14; do, good, $12.75 to $13; do, medium, $11.50 to $12; do, common, $10.50 to $11; bulls, choice, $11.50 to $12.50; do, medium bulls, $10 to $10.50; do, rough bulls, $7.75 to $8.25; butchers' cows, choice, $12 to $13; do, good, $10.50 to $11.50; do, medium, $9.25 to $10; do, common, $7.50 to $8.25; stockers, $8.75 to $11.50; feeders, $11.50 to $13.50; canners and cutters, $5.50 to $7; milkers, good to choice, $90 to $150; do, com. and med., $65 to $75; springers, $90 to $150; light ewes, $13 to $14; yearlings, $12 to $14; spring lambs, $18 to $21; calves, good to choice, $15.50 to $17.50; hogs, fed and watered, $20.75 to $21; do, weighed off cars, $21 to $21.25; do, f.o.b., $20 to $20.25.

200,000 MONTHLY DIE IN PETROGRAD

All Plans of Sending Food Involve Recognition of the Bolsheviki.

A despatch from Paris says:—Hjalmar Branting, the Swedish Socialist leader, and Dr. Fridtjoff Nansen, head of the Norwegian Food Mission to the United States and several other prominent Scandinavians and Swiss subjects, have been conferring with members of the Inter-Allied Relief Council in an effort to arrange for the feeding of the larger cities of Russia, especially Petrograd.

A proposition by the Council of Four to send food to Soviet Russia if the Bolsheviki ceased hostilities was presented on Friday. This plan however, met with serious opposition, particularly from the French, on the ground that it would constitute recognition of the Bolsheviki Government. The proposed plan would have placed the food entirely under the control of a neutral commission, and consequently, the American position on the revictualling of Soviet Russia would not constitute recognition on the part of the Entente. However, the French hold it impossible to ask General Denekine and the Don Cossack Governments to cease fighting, even if the Bolsheviki are willing. Dr. Nansen is anxious that the revictualling plan be adopted speedily so that food ships can approach Petrograd as soon as the ice breaks up. Dr. Nansen estimates the death rate at 200,000 monthly, directly or indirectly due to starvation. He says the world cannot stand idly by and watch women and children starve. Virtually all children of less than two years are now dead in Petrograd, according to Dr. Nansen, and conditions are terrible beyond description in the orphans' homes and hospitals.

TRADE OPENED WITH ROUMANIA

75,000 Tons of Greek Shipping For Canadian-Grecian Route.

A despatch from London says:—The Canadian-Roumanian service will be inaugurated in a few days by the sailing of the Roumanian steamship Jeul from Liverpool for Montreal. This is one of five Roumanian steamers to be placed on this route. The second boat will leave Liverpool early in May and the others will follow every four weeks.

Arrangements are under way for 75,000 tons of Greek shipping to be placed on the Canadian-Grecian route. The greatest difficulty for Canadian trade in Europe is securing sufficient shipping.

GENEVA HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS SEAT OF THE LEAGUE

A depatch from Paris says:—Geneva, Switzerland, has been chosen as the seat of the League of Nations, according to announcement here. At the meeting of the Commission on a League of Nations ten sections of the covenant were considered and passed.

Bavarian Frontier Closed To Prevent Spread of Bolshevism

A despatch from Geneva says:—Despatches received from Innsbruck report that the Italian commander in the Tyrol has ordered the closing of the Bavarian frontier, over which nobody has been permitted to pass since Thursday. The despatches add that the step was taken owing to fears of a spread of Bolshevism to Italy.

PART OF CANADA'S WAR EXPENSES

$80,000,000 For Clothing and Over $4,000,000 For Machine Guns.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Items which served to make up Canada's military expenses in the war to September 30, 1918, are shown in a statement by R. P. Brown, chief accountant of the Department of Militia and Defence. Military expenditures to that date, a month and a half before the signing of the armistice, aggregated $962,702,046, of which slightly more than half was disbursed in Canada. More than half of the total, $552,084,569 was required for pay and allowances of soldiers, including subsistence, billeting, rations, and assigned pay. Separation allowances accounted for $78,956,000; for maintenance of troops in France the expenditure to the date mentioned was $114,336,666. Clothing for our soldiers cost the country $78,965,979, and boots and repairs to boots $11,107,239. Motor trucks, ambulances and other vehicles called for the disbursements of $10,215,220. The carriage of troops by sea entailed an expenditure of $17,448,495, and by land $18,761,564. Other items were: Dominion arsenal, Quebec, $4,077,300.23; Dominion arsenal, Lindsay, $1,725,886.56; Ross Rifle Company (rifles and bayonets to December 31, 1917), $8,911,614.08.

Machine guns, $4,743,478.40; stores, including bedding, furniture and cooking utensils, $16,716,555.84. Purchases of remounts (expenses of purchasers), $8,593,135. Saddlery and horse equipment, $3,145,974.34. Forage and stabling, $4,456,129. Camp Borden, $352,406. Site of Lindsay arsenal, $26,657. Construction and machinery for Lindsay arsenal, $1,514,734. British Recruiting Mission to the United States, $713,922, and amounts recoverable from British and foreign Governments, $2,999,073.

2,000,000 TONS ADDED TO NAVY

12 New Types of Submarines 300 Destroyers, and 100 Mine-Sweepers.

A despatch from London says:—More than two million tons of shipping were added to the British navy during the war at a cost of between £250,000,000 and £300,000,000, according to a statement by Sir E. H. W. Tennyson-D'Eyncourt, Director of Naval Construction at the Admiralty.

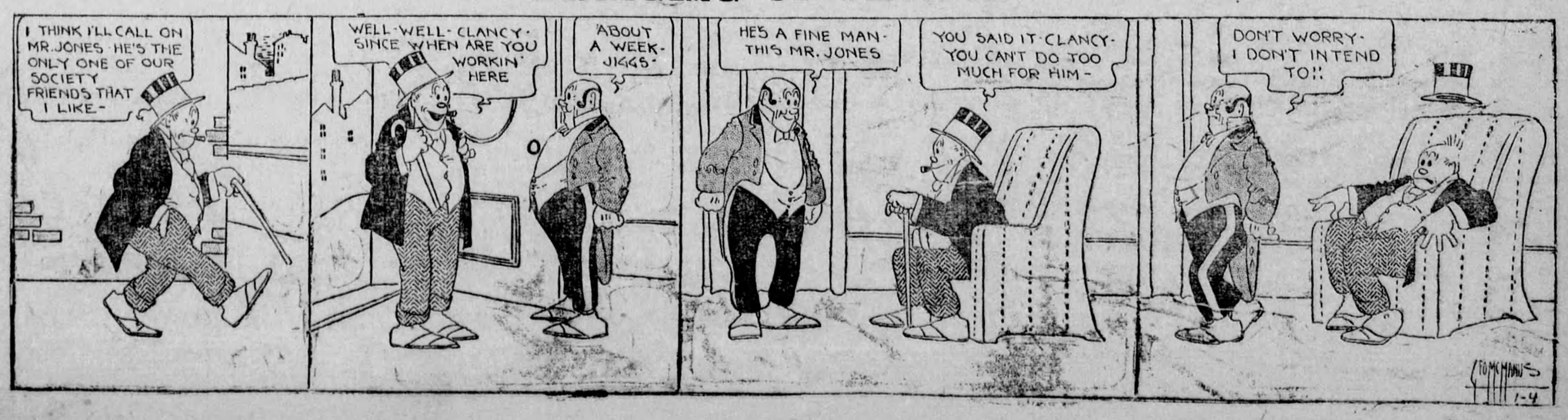
After the battle of the Falkland Islands, the statement says, the design of the Renown and Repulse was altered from battleships to battle cruisers, the value of battle cruisers having become apparent. The famous "Hush" ships—the Courageous, Glorious and Furious—were designed to wipe out German light cruisers and raiders. They carried fifteen-inch guns and steamed 32 knots an hour. During the war three hundred destroyers, 100 mine-sweepers and twelve new types of submarines were added to the British navy.

Four Canadian Signatories To the German Peace Treat

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Hon. N. W. Rowell announced in the House on Friday that the peace treaty would be signed on behalf of Canada by the Canadian plenipotentiaries at the Peace Conference: Sir Robert Borden, Sir George Foster, Hon. C. J. Doherty and Hon. Arthur Sifton.

Evacuation of Sebastopol By the Entente Imminen

A despatch from Paris says:—The advance of the Bolsheviki is likely to force the allies to evacuate Sebastopol, on the Black Sea, near the southern extremity of the Crimea, according to Intransigeant.

A Bolsheviki official despatch by wireless announces the occupation of Birgula, 115 miles northwest of Odessa, and of progress in the direction of Tarnopol and Sarvak.

BRINGING UP FATHER