CONFERENCE AT INVERNESS CANCELLED BY BRITISH PREMIER

Quick Action of Lloyd George on Receipt of de Valera's Letter Declaring That Irish Nation Recognizes Itself as a Sovereign State—"Only One Answer Possible to Such a Claim," Says Premier.

A despatch from London says:—The Irish negotiations came to a crisis on Thursday involving the cancellation of the arrangements for the conference at Inverness next week and implying the possibility of the British Government having to consider a new course of action.

This new situation follows upon the publication in Dublin on Thursday afternoon of a letter from de Valera to Lloyd George, declaring that the Irish nation recognizes itself as a sovereign State, and that it is only as representatives of that sovereign State that the Sinn Fein Cabinet has authority or power to act.

A despatch from Dublin says:—The text of the letter of Eamon de Valera, accepting the invitation to the Inverness Conference, but under certain conditions, follows:

"We are unhesitating in declaring our willingness to enter a conference to ascertain how the association of Ireland with the community of nations known as the British Empire can best be reconciled with Irish national aspirations.

"Our readiness to contemplate such an association was indicated in our letter of August 10. We have accordingly summoned the Dail, that we may submit to it for ratification the names of the representatives it is our intention to propose. We hope that these representatives will find it possible to be at Inverness on the date you suggest, September 20.

"In this final note we deem it our duty to reaffirm that our position is, and can only be, as we have defined it throughout this correspondence. Our nation has formally declared its independence and recognizes itself as a sovereign State. It is only as representatives of that State and as its chosen guardians that we have authority or powers to act on behalf of our people.

"As regards the principle of government by consent of the governed, in the very nature of things it must be the basis of any agreement that will achieve the purpose we have at heart—that is, the final reconciliation of our nation with yours.

"We have suggested no interpretation of that principle save its everyday interpretation, the sense, for example, in which it was understood by the plain men and women of the world when on January 5, 1918, you said:

" 'The settlement of Europe must be based on such grounds of reason and justice as will give some promise of stability. Therefore, it is that we feel that government with the consent of the governed must be the basis of any territorial settlement in this war.'

"These words are the true answer to the criticism of our position which your last letter puts forward. The principle was understood then to mean the right of nations that had been annexed to Empires against their will to free themselves from the grappling hook. That is the sense in which we understand it. In reality, it is your Government, when it seeks to rend our ancient nation and to partition its territory, that would give to the principle an interpretation that would undermine the fabric of every democratic State and drive the civilized world back into tribalism.

"I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

"Eamon de Valera."

A despatch from London says:—Premier Lloyd George telegraphed de Valera from Gairloch, Scotland, the following cancellation of the Inverness Conference:

"I informed your emissaries who came to me, here, on Tuesday, the 13th, that reiteration of your claim to negotiate with His Majesty's Government as representatives of an independent and sovereign State would make a conference between us impossible. They brought me a letter in which you specifically reaffirm that claim, stating that your nation has formally declared its independence and recognizes itself as a sovereign State and 'it is only,' you added, 'as representatives of that State and as its chosen guardians that we have any authority or powers to act on behalf of our people.'

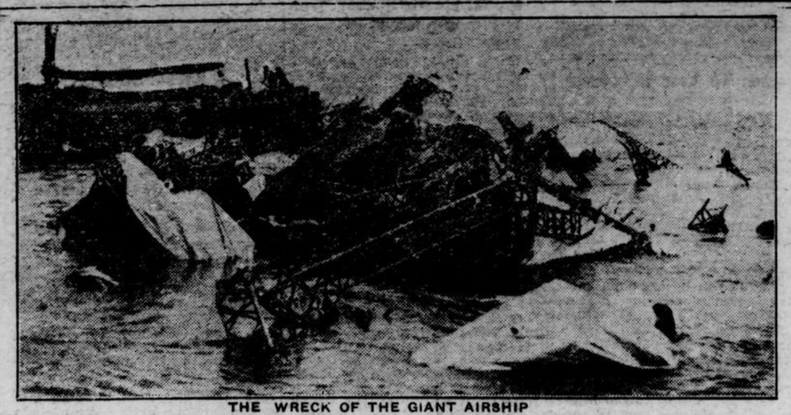
"I asked them to warn you of the very serious effect of such a claim and offered to regard the letter as undelivered to me in order that you might have time to reconsider it. Despite this intimation you have now published the letter in its original form.

"I must accordingly cancel the arrangements for the conference next week at Inverness and must consult my colleagues on the course of action which this new situation necessitates.

"I will communicate this to you as soon as possible, but as I am, for the moment, laid up here, a few days' delay is inevitable. Meanwhile, I must make it absolutely clear that His Majesty's Government cannot reconsider the position which I have stated to you.

"If we accepted a conference with your delegates on the formal statement of claim which you have reaffirmed, it would constitute an official recognition by His Majesty's Government of the severance of Ireland from the Empire and of its existence as an independent Republic. It would, moreover, entitle you to declare, as of right acknowledged by us, that, in preference to association with the British Empire, you would pursue a closer association, by treaty, with some other foreign power. There is only one answer possible to such a claim as that.

"The great concessions which His Majesty's Government have made to the feeling of your people, in order to secure a lasting settlement, deserved, in my opinion, some more generous response, but so far every advance has been made by us. On your part you have not come to meet us, by a single step, but have merely reiterated, in phrases of emphatic challenge, the letter and spirit of your original claim."



THE WRECK OF THE GIANT AIRSHIP

A striking photograph of the wreck of the R-38, as it appeared lying in the river Humber, at Hull, England.

1921 HARVEST LIKELY TO EXCEED THAT OF BANNER YEAR 1915

A despatch from Ottawa says:—That the great wheat harvest of 1915 will probably be exceeded by the harvest this year is forecast in a report issued to-night by the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. According to the report, which covers the condition of the crops up-to-date, the average yields in bushels per acre for the principal grain crops will be as follows:

Fall wheat 21¾, as against 24 last year. Spring wheat 15½, as against 14; fall wheat 15¾, as against 14½; oats 30¼, as against 33½; barley 22¾, as against 24¾; rye, 16¼, as against 17½; flax seed 9.10, as against 5.60. Upon the areas sown, as estimated on June 30 last, these averages represented total yields as follows:

Fall wheat, 15,478,000 bushels, as against 19,469,200 bushels last year; spring wheat 278,914,000 bushels, as against 243,720,100 bushels; fall wheat, 294,387,800 bushels, as against 263,189,300 bushels; oats, 466,303,100 bushels, as against 530,709,700 bushels; barley, 57,607,300 bushels, as against 63,310,550 bushels; rye, 11,847,500 bushels, as against 11,306,400 bushels, and flaxseed, 7,166,300 bushels, as against 7,997,700 bushels. These are preliminary estimates subject to revision after completion of the threshing, the prevalence of rust, both black and red, in the Province of Saskatchewan occasioning difficulty in the preliminary estimation of average yields.

For the three Prairie Provinces the preliminary estimate in bushels is: Wheat, 271,508,000 (234,138,000); oats, 331,270,000 (314,297,000); barley, 42,720,000 (40,760,500); rye, 9,567,000 (8,273,000); flax seed, 6,801,300 (7,580,800). For Manitoba the yields are: Wheat, 37,212,000 (37,512,000); oats, 57,000,000 (57,657,000); barley, 18,488,000 (17,520,000); rye, 2,880,000 (2,318,600); flax seed, 793,300 (1,157,800). In Saskatchewan they are: 173,580,000 (113,135,300); oats, 183,863,000 (141,549,000); barley, 13,500,000 (10,501,500); rye, 3,957,000 (2,535,000); flax seed, 5,420,000 (5,705,000). In Alberta they are: Wheat, 60,716,000 (83,461,000); oats, 90,407,000 (115,091,000); barley, 10,732,000 (12,739,000); rye, 2,730,000 (3,420,000); flax seed, 585,000 (726,000). The figures within brackets represent the yields of 1920.

The average condition on August 31 of late sown crops, expressed numerically in percentages of the average yield per acre for the ten years 1911-20, is reported as follows:

The figures within brackets, representing in the order given, the conditions on July 31, 1921, and on August 31, 1920; peas, 83 (89, 99); beans, 94 (95, 99); buckwheat, 92 (90, 101); mixed grains, 80 (87, 105); corn for husking, 10 (97, 101; potatoes, 86 (89, 102); turnips, mangolds, 82 (87, 98); fodder corn, 104 (101, 102); sugar beets, 89 (93, 101); pasture, 88 (86, 95). The figures for 1921 represent the following forecast of total yield in bushels or tons: Peas, 2,390,000; beans, 1,030,000; buckwheat, 7,443,000; mixed grains, 22,657,000; corn for husking, 15,304,000; potatoes, 97,616,000; turnips, etc., 84,030,000; fodder corn, 5,649,000 tons; sugar beets, 272,000 tons. Preliminary estimates were issued on August 10 for hay and clover, 10,374,000 tons, and alfalfa, 362,000 tons; first cutting.

DOMINION NEWS IN BRIEF

Victoria, B.C.—The salmon pack in British Columbia during the year 1920 totalled 1,187,616 cases, according to the report of the Fisheries Department. Chum and sockeye were in the majority, accounting for 436,031 cases of the total.

Edmonton, Alta.—Edmonton and the outside world is soon to have direct wireless communication with Fort Norman and Fort Smith, as well as other northern points, according to the plans of a local firm which has just been granted a federal license for the operation of commercial wireless between these points. Marconi equipment will be used and wireless operators will be brought from the coast. It is expected that the system will be in operation by early spring.

Calgary, Alta.—Willard Mack, the famous author and playwright, whose "Tiger Rose" won widespread popularity, is in Calgary collaborating with Ralph Kendall, member of the Calgary police force and author of "Benton of The Royal Mounted" and "The Luck of the Mounted," in the preparation of a new play to be designated, "The Maple Leaf Man." Mack, whose parents live on a big farm near Calgary, is looking for red-blooded material devoid of mushy sentimentalism and picked out Kendall as the author best fitted to supply his needs.

Something That Concerns You.

During the past year and a half many Canadian citizens have been out of employment. Yet, during all the period we continued to import goods at a record pace, goods the product of the field or factory, that could have been produced in our own country.

Nearly $300,000,000 worth of our total importations for the year ending March 31st, 1921, could and should have been produced at home.

Had we insisted upon goods of Canadian production instead of taking foreign products, additional wage payments amounting to $100,000,000 would have been distributed and we would have had no unemployment problem.

The remedy is in our own hands: Ask always for goods produced in Canada.

Here are some of the articles imported during that period which could have been supplied from our own farms and factories.

Fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, $11,500,376; meats, fish, eggs, and milk products, $19,756,356; biscuits, confectionery, etc., $3,977,577; hides, furs and skins,, leather and by-products, $34,939,475; tobacco, $14,356,294; textiles and manufactures thereof, $81,366,566; agricultural implements, $11,759,709; boilers and machinery, $31,209,129; castings and hardware, $10,852,157; books, paper, etc., $11,202,755; lumber and mfrs. of lumber, $12,973,670; vehicles, $5,955,735; aluminum kitchenware, $324,992; electric and gas apparatus, $17,182,859; asbestos, $977,160; salt, 939,995; fertilizers, $4,272,054; household and personal equipment, $9,416,005; brushes, $1,077,718; musical instruments, $3,486,744.

Buy Canadian products and keep this money in circulation in Canada.

Slightly Injured in 1,200-Foot Drop

A despatch from Sault Ste. Marie says:—Aviator Albert Highstone, while piloting the Sopwith dove plane, owned by Messrs. William Marshall and E. Keyes, crashed 1,200 feet in a trial flight at noon on Thursday, but escaped with minor injuries. The machine was to have been an attraction at the fair here, and was being placed in readiness for a series of flights. It landed in a tree near the wireless station, and will be almost a total loss.

A Japanese wooer presents his sweetheart with a beautiful sash by way of an engagement token.

"V . . . V"

It is again reported that Marconi has heard wireless signals of an "unearthly" nature. These mysterious dots and dashes, three dots and a dash, grouped, to be more exact, are only to be intercepted by apparatus tuned to the prodigious electric-wave length of 150,000 metres, which is five times longer than any radio wave used on our earth.

Three dots and a dash in combination form the character "V" in our wireless alphabet, and it is a strange coincidence that radio stations on earth use the letter "V" for a purpose which would agree with the supposed objective of the supposed wave from another planet—that is, to test out communication.

Unfortunately, we have no wireless station of adequate power or wave length to answer a mysterious caller across the great etheric void. If we had such an apparatus, the least we could do would be to reply with many answering "Vs" followed by repeated "OK"; and after several exchanges of much mutual greeting the year 1921 would be remembered in history as the date of the first epochal interchange of intelligence between the planets.

Nor would we stop at such meagre communication. With evidence that Mars is a much older world than ours, it is reasonable to suppose that its inhabitants are masters of astronomy as well as other arts and sciences, so that any event observable by both worlds would be a subject for further mutual understanding. For example, if we experienced an eclipse of the sun by our moon, we might say to Mars and all other planets, "Moon eclipses sun," whereupon their three-storey thinkers who also had observed the phenomenon with their telescopes would know the characters of telegraphic code with which we describe our planet, its satellite and our great luminary.

Those who scoff at such a possibility as radio from Mars will do well to reflect that it is a matter of no more than twenty years since we transmitted wireless over the face of the earth in terms of a few yards instead of the present range of 10,000 miles. The skeptical may also meditate on the fact that, unless our astronomers and telescopes deceive us, the Martians have worked wonders on their sphere, building a network of canals from pole to pole across the face of the planet, so that the melting snows of their polar regions, which provide their only source of moisture, may render their little world inhabitable. Is it beyond imagination that such apparently energetic and intelligent inhabitants of another world, which is slowly drying up, should attempt communication with their more fortunate neighbors and, as their plight becomes more desperate, call for help?

In any event, since the report of supposed wireless from another world is given by no less an authority than Marconi himself, the keenest interest will be manifest in further attempts to confirm this remarkable possibility. Imagine the sensations of the wireless operator as he carefully tunes his newly built receiver to the great wave and fairly squeezes his brain in an attempt to catch that transcendental letter "V"!

As Vast as Russia.

The voices from Russia are blending into a single note, whether they be the voices of those long inside or those of the observers and workers who went in but yesterday. They agree that all Russia is crying for food, outside of the cities where Soviet strength is concentrated.

It is not only a famine in the Volga, or a famine in the Ukraine, or a famine in White Russia, or among the Cossacks of the Don. Instead, the food shortage that has come this fall is the climax of years of little food. All Russia has been feeling the pinch of hunger for a long time.

"It is a vast and general hunger in Russia," says Captain Kilpatrick, of the Red Cross, recently liberated. "It is not a famine here and there, but a cry for food everywhere.

It seems that yesterday there was hardly enough food in Russia to keep a vast population alive. Came the droughts and a sky darkened by winged pests, and galloping famine took the place of slow starvation. There was only a little food for every one yesterday; to-day there is none. Yesterday there was no more than a bare existence; to-morrow millions certain of death wait calmly for it to come.

It is a national hunger that the world has to deal with in Russia. All Russia has for years been on the verge of the starvation that has come in the Volga regions, that has reached down into the Ukraine, over toward Asia and threatens even the heart of Great Russia.

Winter is now creeping down upon Russia from the wastes of the Arctic. It will envelop a nation, enfeebled by years of hunger, stoically facing a famine, the like of which has never been known in famine annals. The Russian peasant is dying on the march, his fields unplowed, forgotten and unseeded behind him. If the winter of 1921-22 is to be the worst winter in Russia, then what will the winter of 1922-23 be like?

Waste from coal mines will be utilized in power production, briquet and concrete manufacture and the distribution of by-products by a company formed at Nottingham, England.

Weekly Market Report

Toronto.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.67; No. 2 Northern, $1.62; No. 3 Northern, $1.56; No. 4 wheat, not quoted.

Manitoba oats—No. 3 CW, 55c; No. 4 CW, 53¼c; extra No. 1, 53¼c; No. 1 feed, No. 2 feed, not quoted.

Manitoba barley—No. 3 CW, 80c; nominal.

All above in store, Fort William.

Ontario wheat—F. o. b. shipping points, according to freights outside. No. 2 winter, $1.25 to $1.30; No. 3 winter, $1.22 to $1.27; No. 1 commercial, $1.17 to $1.22; No. 2 spring, $1.20 to $1.25; No. 3 spring, nominal; No. 2 goose wheat, nominal.

American corn—Prompt shipment. No. 2 yellow, c.i.f. bay ports, 71c, nominal.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 43 to 45c, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, 65 to 70c, according to freights outside.

Ontario flour—$6, in bags, Montreal and Toronto.

Peas—No. 2, nominal.

Manitoba flour—Track, Toronto: First pats., $9.85; second pats., $9.35.

Buckwheat—Nominal.

Rye—No. 2, $1.

Millfeed—Carlots, delivered Toronto: Bran, $28 to $30; shorts, per ton, $30 to $32; feed flour, $2.10.

Eggs—No. 1, 42 to 44c; selects, 49 to 51c; new-laid, cartons, 51 to 53c.

Butter—Creamery, No. 1, 40 to 43c; do, No. 2, 38 to 40c; dairy prints, 33 to 34c; bakers', 28 to 30c.

Oleomargarine—Best grade, 22 to 24c.

Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23½c; twins, 23½ to 24c; Stilton, 25 to 26c. Old, large, 28 to 29c; twins, 29 to 30c.

Honey, extracted—White clover honey, in 60-30-lb. tins, per lb., 14 to 15c; do, 10-lb. tins, per lb., 15 to 16c; Ontario No. 1 white clover, in 2½-5-lb. tins, per lb, 17 to 18c; comb honey, per doz. $3.75 to $4.50.

Smoked meats—Rolls, 27 to 28c; hams, med., 38 to 40c; heavy, 29 to 30c; cooked hams, 55 to 58c; boneless backs, 42 to 48c; breakfast bacon, 33 to 38c; special, 45 to 48c; cottage rolls, 30 to 31c.

Green meats—Out of pickle, 1c less than smoked.

Barreled meats—Bean pork, $28; short cut or family back, boneless, $41; pickled rolls, $38 to $44; mess pork, $31.

Dry salted meats—Long clears, in tons, 16 to 21c; in cases, 16½ to 21½c; clear bellies, 18½ to 19½c; backs, 13½ to 15½c.

Lard—Tierces, 18½ to 19c; tubs, 19 to 19½c; pails 19¼ to 19¾c; prints, 20½ to 20¾c; shortening, tierces, 14¼ to 14½c; tubs, 14½ to 15c; pails, 15 to 15½c; prints, 17½ to 18c.

Good heavy steers, $7 to $8; butcher steers, choice, $6 to $7; do, good, $5 to $6; do, med., $4.50 to $5; do, com., $3 to $4; butcher heifers, choice, $6 to $6.50; do, med., $4.50 to $5.50; canners and cutters, $1 to $2.50; butcher bulls, good, $3.50 to $5; do, com., $2.50 to $3.50; feeders, good, 900 lbs., $5.50 to $6.25; do, fair, $4.50 to $5.50; milkers and springers, choice, $65 to $85; calves, choice, $10 to $12, do, med., $7 to $9; do, com., $2 to $5; lambs, yearlings, $5 to $6.50; do, spring, $8 to $9; sheep, choice, $3.50 to $4; do, heavy and bucks, $1.50 to $3; hogs, fed and watered, $10; do, off cars, $10.25; do, f.o.b., $9.25; do, to the farmer, $9.

Montreal.

Oats—Can. West., No. 2, 61 to 61½c; Can. West., No. 3, 60 to 60½c. Flour, Man. Spring wheat pats., firsts, $9.85. Rolled oats, bag, 90 lbs., $3.10 to $3.20. Bran, $30. Shorts, $31. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, $29 to $30.

Cheese, finest easterns, 18 to 18¼c. Butter, choicest creamery, 38 to 39c. Eggs, selected, 45 to 46c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, $1.50 to $1.75.

Butcher steers, $6; grass calves, $3.50 to $4.50; top veals, $12; lambs, $8 to $8.25; sheep, $2 to $4; hogs, $10.50 to $10.75.

Ontario's New Lieutenant-Governor

Col. Henry Cockshutt, of Brantford, who has taken the oath of office at Toronto.

Busy Tokio.

Japan is doing what she can, wherever she can, to put her house in order before the Washington conference. For some time she has been making an effort to agree with the United States on the Island of Yap and the cables thereof. She is seeking an arrangement that will be satisfactory to Siberia and is now offereing to return Shantung to China on what appear to be liberal terms.

The Shantung proposals are brief. They include the return of the peninsula to China, with full sovereignty and political rights, and the removal of all Japanese troops from the area. In return Japan asks joint Japanese-Chinese operation of the Shantung railway system.

Whatever Japan and America may do as to Yap or Japan may arrange in Siberia, it is certain that any agreement made as to China prior to the conference must wait upon the conference for final disposition. While the Pekin Government is charged with being pro-Japan, it hardly will dare settle the Shantung and other Chinese-Japanese problems on the eve of the parleys.

China is a divided nation, with North and South fighting a series of little wars for mastery. Whatever the Pekin Government does will be fought by Canton, and Pekin hopes to upset everything that has been done by Canton. It is, in fact, a grave question as to who is entitled to speak for China in the parleys.

Therefore, Japan cannot hope to enter the conference with her relations to China all neatly completed, packaged and labelled "Facts Accomplished." But Tokio will do what Tokio can.

Little Damage Caused by Snow in West

A despatch from Regina, Sask., says:—With the fine, cool weather, farmers in Southern Saskatchewan are cheered at the prospect of their wheat now in the fields drying out without much damage. Threshing, however, will not likely be resumed until the beginning of next week.

A New University Course.

On the first day of the Short Course in Journalism held this week at the University of Toronto, one hundred and seventeen persons registered, forty-nine of them being men. The class consisted primarily of editors and publishers of weekly newspapers in Ontario, from as far east as Ottawa and as far west as Petrolia. If one may judge from the comments heard in the corridors, those in attendance were delighted with the lectures to which they were privileged to listen and highly approved of the action taken by the provincial university in providing this course.

The success of this first journalistic venture shows, as did the short course for farmers last winter, that the people of the province appreciate the "broadening-out policy" of their own university and are eager to avail themselves of the opportunities offered. Ontario's provincial university is leading the way in university extension and is showing its desire to serve its constituency in the fullest possible manner.

Greeks Suffer a Huge Disaster

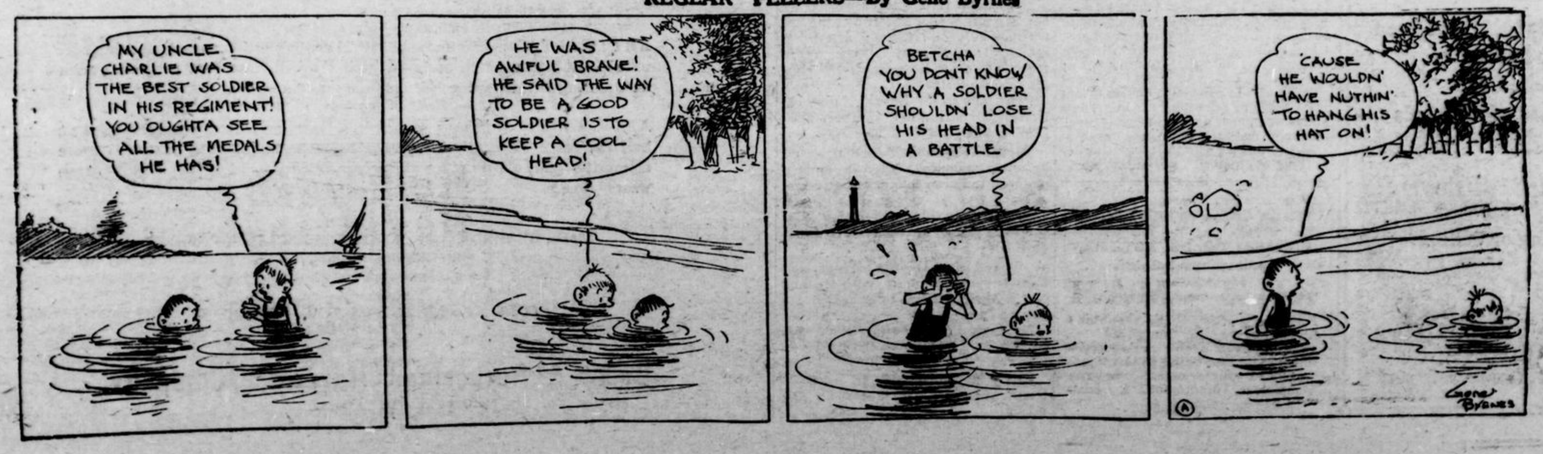
A despatch from Constantinople says:—Reports from Angora say that the Greek army is in general retreat, abandoning wounded, automobiles and war material. The Greek troops are now apparently west of the Sakaria River.

Since Greek public opinion virtually concluded and expected the fall of Angora, with the subsequent occupation of Constantinople, this severe reverse, even if no worse disaster follows, must have a profound effect.

Grain Movement is Early This Year

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—Approximately 16,000,000 bushels of new grain have been billed over the Canadian National Railways from Western points, officials announced on Thursday. This is more grain than was loaded up to October 4 last year, it was stated.

REGLAR FELLERS—By Gene Byrnes



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