

THE BRITISH AWAIT THE GERMAN STROKE

Which is Expected Between Arras And St. Quentin--The Canadians Form Part of the Line Where the Attack is Awaited.

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

British Army Headquarters, Feb. 19.—The Long-expected great German offensive may begin anytime now, and on the British front the blow is expected to come between Arras and St. Quentin.

From prisoners recently captured it is known that the Germans expect to use giant tanks and new gases in this assault and will send their infantry forward in great masses to overcome all obstacles.

German officers are confident of success but many of the troops, while they will fight well, are not enthusiastic over the fierce losses which await them.

The entire Allied forces, on the other hand, await Germany's terrible blow with confidence in their position and resources. The morale of the Allied forces is at the highest pitch and the Allies have superiority of men and guns.

The Canadians form part of the line which it is expected the Germans will attack.

MAJOR McLEAN OF 21ST

HAS ARRIVED AT HIS HOME IN OTTAWA.

Does Not Think the War Will Last Longer Than Next Summer—He is Full of Optimism.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—Major Donald Hector McLean, one of Ottawa's best known citizens, after nearly two years' service at the front, has arrived at his home in the "Iona Mansions," Somerset street.

Major McLean, who was prominently identified with the 21st Battalion, which unit covered itself with undying glory, in many battles, comes back to his native city full of optimism for the early and victorious termination of this war.

According to a report current in Ottawa, Gen. Kaledines, hetman of the Don Cossacks, has committed suicide.

Berlin's ship, the Percelsia, has been sunk, but not, it is said, by a torpedo; the captain and crew have safely reached Liverpool.

Col. Hon. P. E. Biondin, who latterly has been on the British staff at the front, has been sent to the Italian front on a special mission.

Ottawa Syrians have given the Dominion Government a fine painting of the Holy City to express their joy at the deliverance of Jerusalem.

The Canadian Railway War Board has ordered that freight shall move by the shortest routes, and indirect routing be done away with where it still has existed.

Chatham Collegiate Institute and the theatres and movies in that city have been closed as a precaution against the spread of smallpox, one case having been discovered.

The Nieuwe Rutterdamsche Courant of Amsterdam reports from the front that 30,000 Turks and Bulgarians are understood to have arrived at Verviers, Belgium, fourteen miles east of Liege.

The Government has appointed a court under Lieut.-Col. Hulme to investigate complaints of soldiers as to ill-treatment on board ship returning to Canada, and has reorganized the methods of handling the men.

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS.

British. There were no casualties or damage in last night's air raid over London, says an official announcement. The attempted raid was a total failure.

French. Violent artillery actions occurred during the night in the region south of the Forest of St. Gobain, in the sector of Chavignat and northwest of Bezonvaux. There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front, says the French statement.

WHIG CONTENTS. 1—Await German Strike To Reform Civil Service; Allies Must Achieve Victory; Danger to Germany.

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FRENCH ALPINE CHASSEURS RETURNING FROM THE TRENCHES



This French official picture shows the French Alpine chasseurs returning from a long siege of active service on the Alsatian front.

PLAN TO REFORM CIVIL SERVICE

Attorney-General Lucas Introduces Bill in Legislature to Make Changes.

GOOD-BYE TO PATRONAGE

ALL DEPARTMENTS ARE TO BE LOOKED AFTER

The Government is Adopting a Qualifying Service — A Commission To Classify the Service.

Toronto, Feb. 19.—An Act providing for a reform of the civil service of the Province was introduced into the Legislature yesterday afternoon by Hon. I. E. Lucas, Attorney-General.

He said that the bill provided for the appointment of a civil service commission for the province. The commission was not to be a commission to inquire and the position was to be a permanent one.

The commissioner would make a continuous survey of the various Government departments and would report any suggested improvements to the House. Mr. Lucas said that it would be the duty of the commissioner to classify the civil service of the province.

No More Patronage. "Will it do away with patronage?" asked Mr. Proudfoot. "It will provide that no person shall be appointed to any office until a certificate has been given by the commissioner that the applicant is quite qualified for the office, that the position is necessary and the salary suitable," said Mr. Lucas.

The same provision would be made in respect to the employees of the outside service making a larger salary than \$1,000 a year. Mr. Lucas said that there would be special provisions whereby registrars and county officials would not be appointed until a recommendation that they were fit for the appointment had been made by the civil service commissioner. No provision would be made for civil service examinations until the commissioner had classified the service.

"We do not adopt the competitive system, but rather a qualifying one," said Mr. Lucas, in reply to Mr. Proudfoot, who asked if the appointees to the civil service would have to have the recommendation of the party in power.

SEAL MEAT REPLACES BEEF. Food Controller's Department Talk is Over With Dr. Grenfell.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—Seal meat is the latest table delicacy being seriously considered by the Food Controller as a substitute for the ordinary bovine species.

Officers of the Food Board interviewed Dr. Grenfell, of the Labrador mission, with regard to this proposal. Dr. Grenfell reported that it would be quite easy to secure twenty million pounds of seal meat, after skinning the animals and extracting the surplus fat. It would be frozen and stored at St. John's, Nfld., and Halifax. The meat is said to be palatable, and to possess high nutritive value.

PHONE GIRLS FOR FRANCE.

Four Bilingual Operators in Montreal Engaged by U.S. Government.

Montreal, Feb. 19.—Four Montreal telephone operators have been engaged by the United States Government to go to France to run the military exchanges. The girls were selected because they are bilingual. Their names are Jean Cunningham, Wilfrid Leblanc, Alice Ward and Marie Hardy.

Arms and munitions for the Finns were seized by the Swedish authorities.

SAID THE BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN OVERTHROWN

This Is a Story That Comes From the Distressed Land—Lenine and Trotsky Have Fled.

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, Feb. 19.—

Rumors in Vaca are that the Bolshevik government has been overthrown by the Social Revolutionists under the leadership of M. Tchernoff.

Nikolai Lenine and Leon Trotsky are said to have escaped to Riga.

Another Raid Carried Out But Failed

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, Feb. 19.—Another air raid took place last night with less than one hundred casualties.

The German flyers took advantage of another clear moonlight, Monday, to attempt to drop bombs on London. Their attack was a failure as far as the metropolis was concerned. The fire of the barrage guns on the outskirts of London was heavy for two hours.

Brought Down Planes. London, Feb. 19.—Ten German airplanes were brought down and six more disabled by the British airmen in Flanders on Sunday.

Rochester Pioneer Dead. Rochester, N.Y., Feb. 19.—Jeremiah Phelan, seventy-three, one of the pioneer shoe manufacturers of Rochester, died, Saturday, after a brief illness, from pneumonia.

The government icebreakers have started work of breaking up the ice bridges formed across the river during the winter above Gap Rouge.

The Archbishop of York, after visiting several American centres, will spend a good portion of April in Canada.

FIGHTING RESUMED (Canadian Press Despatch.) Berlin, Feb. 19.—The Germans have crossed the Dvinsk river and are pursuing on towards Petrograd. Fighting has been resumed at all points.

Still Under Arms. Petrograd, Feb. 19.—Five million Russians are still under arms and will resist the Germans.

Austria to Aid. Amsterdam, Feb. 19.—An Austro-German agreement has been reached, whereby "if action is necessary" against Russia, Germany's operations will be limited to the Russian frontiers, while the Austrians will operate in Ukraine, according to despatches from Vienna.

"Bogus" Policemen Arrest Deserters. Montreal, Feb. 19.—Inspector Belanger of the Dominion Police, who is in charge of the men operating the drag-net for the deserters under the Military Service Act in this district, has issued a warning that every officer who makes an arrest for alleged desertion should be compelled to show his badge, as unauthorized persons have taken advantage of the present situation in making pretended arrests and accepting bribes for liberating their victims.

INDIAN RESERVES WILL BE UTILIZED Plan to Increase Grain and Live Stock Production in Western Canada.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—Announcement is made by Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister of the Interior, of a comprehensive plan to increase grain and live stock production in Western Canada by the utilization of the large productive areas within the Indian reserves and the labor of Indians themselves.

W. M. Graham, inspector of Indian agencies, South Saskatchewan, inspectorate, has been appointed a commissioner for the Department of Indian Affairs in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. He will have charge of the working out of the details of the plan.

In connection with the new scheme to increase production it is pointed out that owing to the instructions which the Indian tribes have received along agricultural lines, a considerable degree of success has already attended their farming efforts and rations are no longer issued to able-bodied Indians. Last season the Indians on the various reserves harvested 654,644 bushels of grain, while their live stock amounted to 22,362 head.

Only a small portion of the land on Indian reserves is under cultivation. In view of the circumstances that these reserves are for the most part situated in the productive area of the three Prairie Provinces and are finely adapted for agriculture and stockraising, it is regarded by the Government as particularly desirable that the idle land should be cultivated and the man-power of the Indians efficiently mobilized in support of the campaign for greater production of food.

2,500,000 GERMANS HAVE BEEN KILLED The Kaiser Has 4,805,000 Men Still Available For Slaughter.

Paris, Feb. 19.—The Echo de Paris after a careful and minute examination of allied and enemy documents which has in its possession publishes what the newspaper reckons to be Germany's losses in the war and the number of troops which she has available.

The losses through the war, it declares, are 4,225,000 men, of whom 2,500,000 are dead. Since 1914 Germany has been able to mobilize 14,000,000, from which 500,000 must be deducted, having remained in Entente or neutral countries. The first figure does not include the 1920 class, which would increase the forces by 450,000 men.

Following medical examinations at the beginning of the war, 2,250,000 men were rejected as unfit. This left a total of 11,250,000, from which losses must be deducted. At present Germany has in hospitals or waiting to be examined 950,000 men, while 70,000 men are employed in depots or the interior of the country.

Then the number of men Germany has lost as prisoners is given, taken from official lists published by the German Government and reproduced by Swiss, Swedish and German papers. These are: Prisoners in France, 2,500,000; in Russia, 2,000,000; in England, 120,000, making a total of 570,000, which is considered below the actual figures.

This would apparently leave Germany 4,805,000 men still available.

MURDER FOR SPORT IS RIFE IN FINLAND Red Guard Massacre and Rob The Middle-Class Citizens.

Stockholm, Feb. 19.—Grim stories of atrocities committed by the Red Guard in Southern Finland were told yesterday by the 640 refugees who reached Stockholm with the second relief expedition sent from here. Eleven men were taken from a large estate near Bjornesborg, stripped and compelled to run around a walled garden while the Red Guard used them as targets until all were killed.

This is but one of a score of similar stories related by the eye-witnesses.

The Red Guard makes a specialty of mutilating victims' faces, so that relatives cannot identify the bodies. Six wounded members of the Government force were killed with knives when the Red Guard captured Kotka. Murders are of daily occurrence in Helsingfors. Two hundred and forty tons of sugar sent to the Swedish consul at Helsingfors were stolen by the Red Guard at Mantyluo. The stocks of the food commissioner were also plundered.

AN EXTENSIVE RAID WITH FINE RESULTS There Were Many Casualties Among the Foe And Prisoners Were Taken.

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, Feb. 19.—An extensive raid was carried out by the British troops last night on the Eschard front in the southern section of Houtstool Wood. Two other successful raids, one in the region south of Lens, were carried out by the Canadian troops and another on the old Arras front in the neighborhood of Epy. Prisoners were taken in all these raids. The Flanders raid was particularly an important affair, resulting in heavy casualties to the Germans.

Died This Afternoon. Capt. Herbert Swaine, District Pensions Officer, died this afternoon at the General Hospital.

ALLIES MUST ACHIEVE VICTORY

"There is No Half Way House," Declares Rudyard Kipling.

WORLD MUST BE SAVED FROM THE UNSPEAKABLE POLICIES OF THE HUNS.

No Suffering Too Much—The Great-est of Agencies Now But a Featherweight, Compared With Teuton Domination.

London, Feb. 19.—Rudyard Kipling, speaking at Folkestone on the war aims that confront the world and the true meaning of German militarism, said:

"At the present time all the powers in the world that have not been bribed or bullied to keep out of it have been forced to join in one international department to make an end of German international thuggery, for the reason that if it is not ended life on this planet will become insupportable for human beings.

"Nine-tenths of the atrocities that Germany has committed have not been made public. Until this veil is lifted after the war we shall have no conception of the range and system of those atrocities.

"So long as the Germans are left with any excuse for thinking such things pay, can any peace be made with them? None; for our hearts, our reason, our instinct in us that has lifted us above the mere brute, shows us that the war must go on. Otherwise the earth would become a hell without hope.

"The representatives of the Allies meet together from time to time and lay down what the war aims of the Allies are. From time to time our statesmen repeat that they all agree. We are fighting for freedom and liberty, for the right of small states to exist, and for the nations to decide for themselves how they are to be governed. All this we understand and perfectly believe.

"That is the large view of the situation. What is the personal aspect of the case for you and for me? We are fighting for our lives, the lives of every man, woman and child here and everywhere else; we are fighting that we may not be herded into actual slavery, such as the Germans have established by forces of arms in large parts of Europe; we are fighting against eighteen hours a day of forced labor under the lash or at the point of a bayonet, with a dog's death and a dog's burial at the end of it; we are fighting that men, women and children may not be tortured, burned, and mutilated in public, as has happened in this town (referring to the air raid murders) and hundreds of others, and we will go on fighting till the race which has done these things is in no position to continue or to repeat its offense.

No Half Way House. "If for any reason whatever we fall short of victory—and there is no half-way house between victory and defeat—what happens to us is this: Every relation, every understanding, every decency upon which civilization has been so anxiously built, will go, will be washed out because it will have been proven unable to endure. The whole idea of democracy (which at bottom is what the Hun fights against) will be dismissed from men's minds because it will have been shown incapable itself, together with every belief and practice that is based upon it. The Hun ideal, the Hun's notions of life, will take their place throughout the world.

"Under that dispensation man will become once more that natural prey, body and soul, of his better-armed neighbor. Women will be mere instruments for continuing the breed, the vassal of man's lust and man's cruelty, and labor will become a thing to be knocked on the head if it dares give trouble, and worked to death if it does not. And from this order of life there will be no appeal, no possibility of any escape.

"This is what the Hun means when he says that he intends to impose German culture, which is the German religion, upon the world.

"This is precisely what the world has banded itself together to resist. It will take every ounce in us; it will try us to the naked soul. Our trial will not be made less by earnest advice and suggestions that we should attempt some sort of compromise which means defeat, put forward by Hun agents and confederates among us. They are busy in that direction already, but be sure of this: Nothing we may have to endure now, nothing will weigh one featherweight, compared with what we shall most certainly have to suffer if, for any cause, we fall of victory."

The Government has discovered that German agents in the United States have sent military information to Berlin by means of codes derived from arrangements of postage stamps.

RUSSIA FORCED TO SIGN PEACE

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, Feb. 19.—Russia is now forced to sign a peace upon conditions proposed by Germany says an official Russian statement received here today.