

## DIVORCE BILLS RAISE COMMENT

An Unusual Number Are Before the House of Commons.

## Laurier Wants Decision

As to Provincial Rights to Divorce Courts.

Premier Borden could not tell W. F. Nickle when the discussion on titles will be resumed.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Ottawa, May 16.—A bill from the Senate to amend the Canadian Patriotic Fund Act was introduced in the House this morning by the Minister of Justice.

The bill makes it clear that the fund is entitled to distribute among the relatives resident in Canada of soldiers forming part of the Canadian and Allied forces.

Mr. Nickle asked the Prime Minister if he could fix a date, when the debate on titles would be resumed.

Sir Robert Borden said that no decision had been reached.

The House then went into committee on private bills. Hon. Rudolph Lemieux drew the attention of the Government to the unusual number of divorce bills before the House.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the right of the provinces to grant divorces was a constitutional question which could only be decided by the supreme judicial authorities.

The question was whether any province established since Confederation had right to establish divorce courts.

It was a question of the interpretation of the constitution and the sooner it was decided the better.

PLANNED TO REACH CALAIS BY MAY 19TH.

London, May 16.—A despatch to the London Daily Mail from The Hague says: "I can assure you on excellent authority that the German date for Calais was, until recently, Whitsunday (May 19th)."

This date was given so definitely that in certain circles it was still maintained that an effort must be made this week.

For the Germans must at least attempt to redeem this promise.

RETURNING TO CANADA. Secretary Bishop, of Y.M.C.A., Had Successful Journey.

London, May 16.—Mr. Bishop, secretary of the Canadian Y.M.C.A., is returning home after a successful journey. He participated in the Paris conference of the working in France last week, which resulted in the formation of a Y.M.C.A. Central French Council, which co-ordinates the different national activities there.

This is now necessary, because the centralized army direction causes the mixing of troops at different points. Thus the American troops are brigaded with other Allied armies.

This Versailles Council of the Y.M.C.A. will equalize and simplify the work, avoid overlapping and prevent waste. Canadians, whose Y provision is the most liberal of any Allied army, intend sharing their advantages to the utmost with all others.

WORKED ITS WAY Into the Austrian Naval Base—Torpedoed a Battleship.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Rome, May 16.—An Austrian battleship was torpedoed by Italian naval forces in Pola harbor early Tuesday morning. It was a Viribus Unitis type, a twenty thousand ton vessel. The Italian force worked its way into the Austrian naval base by dodging mine boats and searchlights of the defenders.

The Austrian battleships were brought down and several others compelled to descend out of control. The Italian forces all returned safely.

Denmark Depleted of Hogs. Copenhagen, May 16.—Denmark's stock of swine, which amounted to about 2,500,000 head at the outbreak of the war, has now dropped to 400,000, according to latest estimates.

Further serious inroads on this stock are being compelled by the impossibility of importing fodder, principally corn. In 1913 Denmark's total exports of pork were nearly 250,000 tons, of which just under one-half went to England.

All exports have now been stopped, and the outlook for supplying the domestic consumption's requirements will be dark if the war continues much longer.

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## ARTILLERY WAS ACTIVE ON WESTERN FRONTS

Both the British and French Took Prisoners in Their Operations.

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, May 16.—The artillery was active last night in the valleys of the Somme and Acre rivers, east of Arras, and on the Flanders battlefields, the War Office reports. Our troops raided the enemy's trenches last night in the neighborhood of Gavrelle, northeast of Arras, and captured a few prisoners. Nothing further to report.

Took Some Prisoners. Paris, May 16.—Artillery actions occurred last night on the French front southeast of Amiens, in the Halles-Castel sectors, says today's War Office announcement. West of Montdidier a German raiding detachment was driven off. The French took prisoners in patrol operations north of Allette.

## NOVA SCOTIA HIT BY U. S. ACTION

Commandeering of Boston-Nova Scotia Shipping Stops Traffic.

Ottawa, May 16.—Commandeering by the United States Government of steamships plying between Boston and the Maritime Provinces has caused a situation which threatens the commercial prosperity down there. The boats between Boston and Halifax, Boston and Yarmouth and Boston and St. John are off, though there is a weekly freight service to Yarmouth.

It is now threatened that this, too, may be withdrawn. Nova Scotia has always been the vacation land of New England, and with no passenger boats available, the tourist business will suffer greatly, though it is regarded as secondary to the freight traffic between the provinces and the Boston market.

E. K. Spinney, M.P. for Yarmouth, has been actively pressing the matter before the Government, and a boat is being searched for, but the outlook tarrens tashruhd(a)—o outlook at present is not promising.

## BRITAIN PREPARED TO HEAR PROPOSALS

With Regard to Peace It Put in a Straightforward Manner.

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, May 16.—Great Britain is preparing to consider proposals from the enemy provided they are put forward by accredited persons in a straightforward manner. Foreign Secretary Balfour declared today in the House of Commons. "If any representative of any belligerent country desires seriously to lay before us a proposal," he said, "we are ready to listen to them."

The British Government was deplorable of an honorable termination of the war, "but the peace moves of the central powers heretofore made had not been in the interests of a fair and honorable peace."

## COST HIM 60 MEALS.

One M.P. Wanted to Get Solid With Farmer Constituents.

Ottawa, May 16.—The farmers' reputation to Ottawa cost one M.P. an lot of money. This M.P., in an effort to make himself "solid" with the tillers of the soil, left word at the Chateau today that the deputations clerk was to inform them that he was unavoidably absent and tender them meal tickets to be charged to his account. Upon returning to the Chateau today the M.P. found, to his consternation, that he had been charged with 60 dinners. Someone had passed the good news around, and the farmers, who came in greater multitude than the M.P. expected, took full advantage of their representatives' generosity.

## BASEBALL RECORD WEDNESDAY

International League. Jersey City . . . 4 Syracuse . . . 2

Binghamton . . . 4 Buffalo . . . 2 Newark . . . 3 Toronto . . . 0

Rochester at Baltimore—Rain.

National League. Cincinnati . . . 3 New York . . . 2

Philadelphia . . . 5 Chicago . . . 3 Brooklyn . . . 5 Pittsburgh . . . 2

St. Louis . . . 5 Boston . . . 2 Washington . . . 1 Chicago . . . 0

## BALTIC FLEET CALLED.

The German Ships Will Return to Kiel at Once.

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, May 16.—The entire German battle fleet, except a few light cruisers, was recalled last week to Kiel where important naval forces now are being concentrated, says a despatch from Hamburg, transmitted by a correspondent of the Daily Express.

## Soviet Government Protest.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Washington, May 16.—A copy of the protest, made by the Soviet Government to the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs on April 25th against German aggressions, made public today by the State Department, shows that the Russians gave notice of their intention to mobilize all necessary forces in order to secure the freedom and independence of the Russian republic, which is now menaced beyond the limits established by the Brest-Litovsk treaty.

## WITH GENERAL PERSHING'S FORCES ON THE FRENCH FRONT



The backbone of General Pershing's fighting men in action somewhere on the western front. When this little one-pounder starts a hail of bullets at the Hun we hear of the fact that the Americans again have driven back the Teutons.

## OVER-SPENDING ON LUXURIES

Canadians Are Consuming Too Much "Eats," Sir Thomas White Says.

## ALSO SPEND TOO FREELY FOR MUSIC AND OTHER MEANS OF PLEASURE.

We Must Save If the Canadian Dollar Is to Be Quoted At Par Internationally.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Toronto, May 16.—"As people we are consuming too much, not only of luxuries but of many other classes of goods. We are spending too freely for ornaments, musical instruments, and other means of amusement and pleasure. All this counts against us in our trade balance with the outside world, and places our dollar at a discount. If the rate of exchange between Canada and the United States is to be kept normal, that is if our Canadian dollar is to be quoted at par, internationally, much greater economy on the part of all of us is necessary."

This is the warning given to all Canada to-day by her Finance Minister, Sir Thomas White, who arrived here to-day, fresh from his conferences in Washington and New York, where he talked in terms of hundreds of millions of dollars, with financial heads of the United States Government and others who control the money markets of the continent.

Sir Thomas seems to be quite fit again, after ten weeks absence in the United States, during which he became profoundly impressed with the spirit of enthusiasm, zeal and confidence, in connection with prosecution of the war, shown by the people of the republic, all the way from New York to California. If Canada practised economy, however, said Sir Thomas, the prospects would be satisfactory.

Sir Thomas said he had conferences with the British War Mission in the States, and expected more contracts for Canada in munitions and other war supplies. Arrangements were also made for the issuance of Canadian securities in New York.

## TO BE NO CHANGE IN HIGHER COMMAND

Of the British Army in France, Bonar Law Announces in Commons.

(Canadian Press Despatch) London, May 16.—Reports that were in circulation to the effect that a change was imminent in the higher command of the British army in France were denied in the House of Commons to-day by Chancellor Bonar Law, spokesman for the War Cabinet. Replying to a question, Mr. Law said no change in the higher command had taken place, nor was any in contemplation.

## Tax on Luxuries.

Paris, May 16.—The new ten per cent. tax on luxuries produced nearly fifteen million francs in the first month during which it was in force.

## MEIGHEN AND CALDER TO GO TO ENGLAND.

(Special to the Whig) Ottawa, May 16.—Hon. Arthur Meighen and Hon. J. A. Calder are the two Cabinet Ministers who have been selected to go to London to negotiate with the English stockholders of the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific for the acquisition of these lines. It is hoped to have a definite proposal ready to submit to the next Parliament.

## DR. EDWARDS STILL AFTER FITZPATRICK

Wants to Know If Sir Charles Is Going to Return Money.

Ottawa, May 16.—On the orders of the Auditor-General's report to the effect that the sum of \$2,500 had been voted to the Chief Justice of Canada for three years running for the same purpose, which had not been carried out.

Dr. Edwards then quoted from the Auditor-General's report to the effect that the sum of \$2,500 had been voted to the Chief Justice of Canada for three years running for a certain specific purpose, which had not been carried out.

Dr. Edwards then quoted from the Auditor-General's report to the effect that in 1915-1916 the vote had been paid. The following year the same thing had occurred, in neither of these years had the Chief Justice attended the sittings of the Privy Council in England. In the fiscal year 1917-18 the amount was not drawn.

The statement of the Auditor-General, said Dr. Edwards, proved that his assertion, if not perfectly correct, was at any rate two-thirds true. Therefore, Sir Charles' declaration in the House that it was "absolutely false" was untrue. In this case the member for Frontenac said he was willing to risk his reputation for veracity against that of the Chief Justice of Canada.

H. B. Morphy asked whether it was the intention of the Government to allow Sir Charles Fitzpatrick to keep this money, which he admitted he had improperly taken.

## Ex-Tommy Wins Riveting Record.

London, May 16.—The Clyde has beaten the London riveting record, according to the Daily Mail. Thomas Devine, a former soldier, at the Dalmut yards of William Beardmore & Co., has driven 4,422 rivets in a side of a ship in nine hours. The London record, made last week by Robert Farrant, was 4,276 rivets in a similar time.

## Bennett To Lie In Paris.

Paris, May 16.—The body of James Gordon Bennett, proprietor of the New York Herald, who died at Beauvais, will be brought to Paris early next week, in accordance with Mr. Bennett's desire, often expressed, that Paris be his last resting place.

## Alberta Town Burned.

Entwistle, Alta., May 16.—Fire originating in the Farmers' hotel yesterday afternoon destroyed the principal portion of the business section of the town of Entwistle, causing a loss estimated at \$40,000, partially covered by insurance.

## W. F. NICKLE TALKED ON CANADA'S RAILWAY PROBLEM

To Discharge Their Financial Obligations, the Resources And Energy of the Country Will Be Taxed to the Utmost.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Ottawa, May 16.—In the House of Commons last night, discussing the Government's policy on the railway situation in Canada, W. F. Nickle, Kingston, declared that before the railway problem is solved and before the people of Canada discharge their financial obligations the resources and energy of the country will be taxed to the utmost. One billion dollars, he said, had been paid to the railways of this country by the Government, and of this amount \$285,000,000 had been paid to the Government owned railroads and the remainder to private roads. The unfortunate railway muddle had come at a bad time. Year after year the roads had been coming to parliament and asking for aid.

Mr. Nickle expressed the opinion that if the war had not opened when it did the C.N.R. would have been able to pull through. He thought it would have been most unjust to take over the C.N.R. without paying compensation for it, especially as he understood that the C.P.R. was willing to buy the road.

Canada, he said, should not be called upon to pay for the mistakes of the Grand Trunk railway system. That road had gone into the construction of G.T.P. with its eyes open and it should be required to carry out its undertaking. If the Prime Minister had a conference with Grand Trunk shareholders when in England, Mr. Nickle thought he should make it clear to them that the Dominion had dealt fairly and honestly with the Grand Trunk system in connection with the construction of the G.T.P. Mr. Nickle said it was possible to get able, honest men to administer the publicly owned utilities, and it should be possible to get equally good men for the railways of the country.

## ARMENIAN SCHOOLBOYS CONTINUE STUDIES

If Race Is To Perish, It Has Determined to Perish With Honor.

London, May 16.—It is learned from Armenian sources that everywhere in the Caucasus the Armenians are organizing in order to resist the attempted advance of the Turkish troops eastward. Telegraphic information from both Armenian and Turkish sources has announced from time to time that fighting has taken place between Armenian and Ottoman troops, and it appears clear that the Turkish march eastward has been considerably hindered.

In spite of enemy propaganda and betrayal by the Tartars, the Armenians are determined to fight to the death for their national cause and the defence of their country. At an enthusiastic meeting held at Tiflis the President of the Armenian Assembly said: "If we perish, let us perish with honor."

On the following day the Armenian trade unions passed a resolution that all able-bodied persons be enrolled, while the students and schoolboys also met and declared that the battlefield was the place where they would continue their studies.

## PASSPORTS REFUSED.

To Women Desirous of Marrying in Canada.

London, May 16.—A peculiar position is constantly arising from the prohibition of passports to women wishing to go to Canada to get married. It is understood the Colonial Office persists in refusing any relaxation in the restrictions, which results in some cases in particular hardships. Considering how every effort is being made to get women married to return to the Dominion, and how all sorts of gloomy prophecies are semi-officially published as to the utter impossibility of them getting back if they delay, it would seem reasonable to expect that facilities would be granted to women definitely engaged and desiring to be married directly on arrival. The plea put forward for the present attitude is shortage of tonnage and risks of travel, but when already married women are being sent by the thousands, surely a few dozen who are desirous of shedding their sisterhood, could be accommodated.

## TO TAKE OVER THE GRAND TRUNK

Premier Borden Announces That Negotiations Are Now On.

## TO OPERATE BOTH LINES

C.N.R. AWARD MAY BE MADE BEFORE JUNE 1ST.

Premier Says Neither Mackenzie Nor Mann Will be on the C.N.R. Board To be Constituted.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Ottawa, May 16.—Premier Borden announced in the Commons last evening that the Government would soon take over the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific railways. Negotiations are now on.

The Premier stated also that the C.N.R. arbitration award may be made before June 1st. The Commission, headed by Sir William Meredith, is closing its sittings at Osgoode Hall.

In giving a statement with regard to the railway situation in Canada Sir Robert said it seemed beyond question that if an arrangement could have been consummated at this time between the Grand Trunk Railway in the east and the Canadian Northern in the west, whereby the two systems would have been combined, in 1903 or 1904, the railways would now be in good condition, and able to lend money to the country, instead of borrowing. That course, however, had not been adopted, and the project of the National Transcontinental Railway was proceeded with.

Dealing with criticisms of the Government for not having appointed a new C.N.R. directorate, the Prime Minister said that one reason for leaving the management unchanged was that the Government has had full and complete access to the records of the company.

Taking up the question of the board of directors to be constituted, Sir Robert Borden said it was not intended that Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann should be on the board. The Prime Minister referred to the difficulties which would confront the Government in administering the affairs of the road, stating that after the capital stock of such a railway had passed into the ownership of the people of the country it ought not to be administered under any department of the Government. He also said that while the road owned by the Canadian people must be subject to the direction and control of the people, in the higher sense, yet it was absolutely essential

## TO EVACUATE ALANDS

Germans and Swedish Forces To Be Withdrawn.

Stockholm, May 16.—The Germans will evacuate the Aland Islands on May 23rd, it was announced yesterday. Swedish forces will be withdrawn at the same time.

Several months ago Swedish military forces were landed there because of atrocities committed against the inhabitants by Russian soldiers. Some time later the Germans also landed a force on the islands. It is probable that the Alands will become a part of the republic of Finland.

## FOCH COMMANDS IN ITALY ALSO.

(Canadian Press Despatch) Washington, May 16.—The Italian have put a larger and better equipped army in the field this spring. General Foch will also command in the Italian theatre.

## LABOR PARTY PICKS WOMEN CANDIDATES

Miss Mary MacArthur to Run in Stourbridge—Mrs. Snowden Also.

London, May 16.—Miss Mary MacArthur, wife of W. C. Anderson, member of Parliament for Attercliffe, has been adopted as the labor party Stourbridge candidate at the next election. She is the first woman candidate adopted by a political party. It is anticipated that she will go to the poll. Other women politicians, notably Mrs. Philip Snowden, are being adopted by the labor party upon employment, having done much to promote the interests of underpaid women workers. Her selected constituency includes Cradley Heath, where women chain-makers and labor, Miss MacArthur organized a victorious strike of these workers in 1916.

## PROHIBITION SOUGHT.

Washington Receives Memorial From Religious Bodies.

Washington, May 16.—Complete prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages during the war was asked of President Wilson and Congress in a memorial signed by the national service and war time commissions of twenty Protestant denominations and six inter-denominational agencies.

## Big Telegraph Strike Threatened.

Washington, May 16.—Commercial telegraphers in seven cities, threatening the strike at one because the Western Union and Postal Companies continue to discharge union men, were appealed to by President Koenigsmann to wait until the decision of the War Labor Board in the controversy is expected.

## STILL HOPING TO REACH COAST

And Bar Navigation of Channel And Bomb South of England.

## GERMAN LOSSES 3,000,000

WHAT MEMBER OF REICHSSTAG TOLD INTERVIEWER.

Says Responsible German Politicians Only Demand That the Western Powers Shall Give Back Hun Colonies.

Copenhagen, May 16.—The Germans still are of the belief that they will be able to reach the English Channel coast, bar navigation of the waters and bombard Southern England, and that then it will be easy to begin peace negotiations, according to an interview the Politiken has had with a prominent German politician, a member of the Reichstag, who requested that his name be not used. He added that the German offensive thus far had proved a failure owing to heavy losses and that the German high command was waiting to obtain more artillery. Germany had lost in killed, wounded and made prisoner 3,000,000 men, he added.

Answering questions about the opinion of the Reichstag Main Committee on the situation on the western front and the end of the war, the newspaper's informant said: "We still believe, according to messages from our military leaders, that we shall reach the north coast, where our guns can bar navigation of the Channel and fire at South England. It is suggested from the German side that with this another course of the war will commence, and as far as Germany is concerned it will be very easy to start armistice negotiations, as, despite all assertions, we do not aim at any conquering. We want neither the mine districts at Lorraine's west frontier nor Alsace."

"We have lost, including killed, wounded and prisoners, 3,000,000 men. Do you think that we intend to make foolish claims and send our children through another four years of war? Moreover, we shall have enough to do during the age of man to control the new Russian states and secure their mercantile and industrial influence. Responsible German politicians only demand that the western powers shall give back our colonies."

## MILLION TONS AFOAT.

U. S. Ship Programme Shows Definite Results.

Washington, D.C., May 16.—The first million tons of ships completed and delivered to the United States Government under the direction of the Shipping Board have been put on the high seas to help defeat Germany.

A total of 159 vessels, of 1,108,621 tons, was completed up to May 11th, according to statistics compiled by experts of the Shipping Board. Since January 1st, more than half of the total tonnage, 667,896, has been delivered, and the monthly totals have shown a steady increase.

## BANDAGES TAKEN OFF.

Burns He Received on Tank Leave Ugly Scars.

Washington, May 16.—President Wilson has removed the bandages which have encased his left hand since he burned it four weeks ago by taking hold of an exhaust pipe in the British tank that visited the White House. The hand has healed, but the burns have left ugly scars, which cover the entire palm.

The President was compelled to give up golf for two weeks but recently has been playing a one-handed game, at which he has become quite proficient.

M. Duval, Paris, who was a director of the suppressed Germanophile newspaper, Bonnet Rouge, has been condemned to death for treason. Six others have been sentenced to imprisonment for terms ranging from two to ten years.

Dr. William Kennedy, retired physician and former president of the Conservative Association of Norfolk County, died at Hamilton on Wednesday.

## WAR BULLETINS.

The German long-range gun factory at Thionville was successfully bombed on Tuesday by the British. Several hits were recorded.

The French are still holding Hill 44, which they recaptured Tuesday, although the Germans are making terrific onslaughts.

Six German air machines were brought down and one put out of control Wednesday. Two British planes are missing.

Much local artillery activity is reported from various parts of the battle front. During Tuesday night gas shelling in Flanders and Somme areas was accompanied by heavy fire.