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## WAR CONTRACTS ENQUIRY RESUMED

Sir Charles P. Davidson, Royal Commissioner appointed to enquire into contracts, held a sitting in the Court House, Charlottetown, yesterday morning. Mr John Thompson was counsel, and Mr Thomas P. Owens, editor of Hansard, was clerk of the Commission. Five witnesses were examined, viz., Messrs Frank Hughes, W. A. Mutch, W. L. H. Essery, James McKenna and W. S. McKie. These witnesses corroborated the evidence given by Mr W. B. McNeill Summerside, regarding the prices he paid for horses. Questioned regarding the profits that are usually made in trading horses, witnesses agreed that \$10 per horse was a good average. The Court continued the enquiry into the evidence submitted, and said the enquiry had been greatly facilitated by the ready manner in which they had answered the questions put them.

The first witness was Mr Frank Hughes, Charlottetown, examined by Mr Thompson.

Did McNeill purchase a horse from you last August or September? Yes. What did he pay? \$170. By cheque? Yes.

Weight? About 1,100. Sound? Yes.

Was the horse inspected by Doyle or any other person? No.

Did you give any money to Doyle or Anderson? No.

These are all the questions I have to ask you.

Mr W. A. Mutch, farmer, Southport, was next witness.

Did McNeill purchase some horses last August from you? Yes, in August or September he bought five. First two and afterwards three more.

What did he pay for the first two? \$175 for the horse and \$215 for the brown mare.

What were the ages? One was four and the other five years.

What did the brown mare weigh? 1,300 or 1,400 lbs.

Sound? Yes.

And the other one? Between 1,100 and 1,200 lbs, I think.

Sound? Yes.

Height? 15 or 16 hands.

How long did you have them? About a month.

Did you know that McNeill was going to buy them? No.

How long after that did he buy the other two horses? Not more than a week, he expected he would be wanting more later. He said he might take more later.

What did he pay for these three? \$510 for the three.

What did he pay for each horse? I think \$160, \$165 and \$185.

What did they weigh? About 1,000 to 1,200.

Ages? Under 8 years old.

What did you pay for these horses? I do not remember. I made a profit on them though. I think I had about \$15 on each horse, or about \$40 on the three.

All sound? Yes.

Are you a horse dealer? I am a farmer, but also deal in horses.

How many do you sell in a year? I never kept any count. Sometimes we sold on them. I sold one the other day that I lost on.

The Commissioner—Was that to the Government? (Laughter.)

What would you average profit on a horse? I think I just average about \$10 or \$15.

You think you would make about \$1,000 or \$1,500 in a year on horse dealing. If you make \$10 or \$15 on a horse and sell about 100 in a year you will make about that? Yes.

Is Mr W. S. McKie a good judge of horses? Yes.

Did McNeill ever fool you? Yes, lots of times. (Laughter.)

How do the prices compare now with last August? Prices are a little higher now.

Mr W. L. H. Essery was next on the stand.

Did McNeill buy a horse from you last August? Yes.

What did he weigh? 1,200 lbs.

Sound? Perfectly.

How long did you have him? Four months.

What did you pay? \$175.

Did you not make any profit on him? No.

Did you know you were selling to the Government? No, unfortunately, or he would not have got him at that price. (Laughter.)

Mr James McKenna was next called.

Did you sell a horse to McNeill last August? I understand that I did.

What did he pay you? He paid me \$150.

Did McNeill tell you what he wanted the horse for? I could not say.

Was the horse sound? Yes.

Do you know Mr W. S. McKie. Is he a good judge of horses? He would do as well as any of the rest. (Laughter.)

Mr Hughes recalled.

What would be the average price of horses such as you sold to Mr McNeill? They vary from \$175 to \$220.

Do you know Mr W. S. McKie. Is he a good judge of horses? Yes.

Do you think he would know the value of a horse? Yes.

What do you consider reasonable compensation when buying horses. How much would you consider your average profit in a year? Perhaps \$10 on a horse. Some you have to keep long and there are expenses of course.

Do you keep a record of your horses? Yes, but it is not usual to do so.

Mr W. S. McKie.

What is your occupation? Horse dealer.

What experience have you had? About 25 years.

What is the average price of a good horse on Prince Edward Island? \$175.

One morning I sold a horse between \$175 and \$220. It would be a fairly average price to pay for a good horse? Yes.

Take a horse dealer who is not employed for the Government, who is carrying on a private business. Supposing he turned out 100 horses a year what would be his fair profit? If he came out with \$10 a head he would make a good profit.

What would be the price of saddle and heavy horses? Saddle horses would average \$150 to \$170, heavy horses \$190.

Are you buying horses for the Government? Yes, I have bought about a hundred.

What have they cost? About \$175.

How are you remunerated? I am on day's wages.

You keep a record of the data of every horse? Yes.

Do you get the owner to sign a memorandum to the effect that the horse is free from defects? No.

Are you a veterinary surgeon yourself? Not quite. I know a good deal about them though.

Was the veterinary surgeon you had with you paid by the Government? Yes.

How many horses can you and the veterinary surgeon examine in a day? Supposing there were 200 or 300 horses to be inspected in one day and you and the surgeon started to test them, how many would you pass in a day? I think we might pass 100 in a day.

A veterinary surgeon told us the other day that he passed 51 in 6 hours. Do you think that would be a hasty examination? It would depend on the veterinary surgeon and whether he was fixing the value at the same time.

Does the fixing of the price take longer than the examination? Why, certainly.

Then the bargaining is of more importance than the examination? When I was in Ottawa I was told that I would be the sole judge of what I should accept or reject, but I take the veterinary as a precaution to assist me.

By whom are the cheques signed? They are signed by me, by the veterinary, by the owner and by a witness.

Then there can be no doubt that the Government is getting the horse for what it cost? There can be no doubt.

At the close of this witness evidence, the Commissioner expressed his pleasure at the satisfactory manner in which the evidence had been given. It all bore out the evidence given in Summerside and had been given in a straightforward manner. The Court would be prepared to sit again that day should any other one express a desire to give any information on the subject of the enquiry.

The Court then rose.

ONLY ONE AMERICAN KILLED.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Only one American, a nuleeter named Whytle, was killed when the British steamer Iberian was shelled and sunk by a German submarine. American Consul General of Queenstown, has reported that the Iberian disregarded the submarine's warning to stop. Later the German commander gave the crew time to take to the boats before firing the torpedo. Whytle died of shock and wounds from shelling.

Minard's Liniment Cures Rheumatism

## FEARFUL LOSSES SUSTAINED BY AUSTRO-GERMAN ARMIES

### During their Advance Towards Warsaw. In the Capture of Lublin the Germans Lost 70,000 Men, Killed, Wounded and Prisoners, While Mackensen Lost 35,000 Men. German Losses at Przasnysz were 14,300.

(Special to The Guardian)  
LONDON, Aug. 2.—It is impossible to state exactly what is happening on the eastern front as obscuring is the most pressing need of the Russian army, said the Petrograd correspondent of the Daily Mail, "in regrouping and shifting its positions."

The capture of Warsaw has not yet been accomplished, according to the telegram. The deliberate Russian withdrawal is an encouraging feature of the situation. "The Russians have not yet been defeated or anything like it," says the Chronicle, which adds that the Russians are inflicting fearful losses on the attacking Germans.

(Special to The Guardian)  
GENEVA, Aug. 2.—The Tribune prints the following despatch from its Innsbruck correspondent:

The capture of Lublin cost General Woytsch 70,000 men killed, wounded and prisoners. Four miles north of Lublin the Russians are fighting fiercely, disputing every foot of ground while covering their retreat.

(Special to The Guardian)  
CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 2.—There have been no important actions on either side in the last fortnight on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

In an advance of seven miles with seven corps Von Mackensen lost 35,000 men.

"The Russians who attacked South Przasnysz, killed 5,000, wounded 8,000 and took prisoners 1,300 of the eighth German army corps."

(Special to The Guardian)  
SANDWICH, Ont., Aug. 2.—His usually pallid countenance almost wholly bloodless, and thick beads of moisture on his brow, William Leffler, confessed dynamiter, stood before County Judge Dromgoole, in the old Court House, here, and heard the words which may send him to prison for life. Leffler was declared guilty on two counts, either of which can put him behind stone walls and steel bars for the balance of his days.

The prisoner was found guilty of dynamiting the Peabody plant at Walkerville, and also of conspiring with Albert Kaltschmidt, of Detroit, and "one Schmidt," to destroy with dynamite other buildings in Windsor and Walkerville. The charge of conspiracy was quashed. The Court withheld decision on a motion by counsel for the defence for a reserved case. It is expected an appeal will be taken to the High Court on the ground that the indictment against Leffler was defective.

Following the announcement of the Court's verdict, Mrs. Leffler, who had sat in the court room all day listening to the different witnesses, rushed over to the prisoner's box and clasped him in her arms.

Although fourteen witnesses in all testified in the case, the confession made by Leffler to Provincial Officer James P. Smith, on the night of his arrest was easily the sensation of the day.

(Special to The Guardian)  
LONDON, Aug. 2.—The British Admiralty to-night announced that a British submarine has returned and reported the sinking of a German torpedo boat destroyer believed to be of G-196 class, near the German coast, on July 26.

(Special to The Guardian)  
ATHENS, Aug. 2.—Arrivals here from Constantinople report 3,000 buildings, including a German hospital, filled with wounded soldiers, destroyed last week by fire.

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PETERBORO, August 2.—Lieutenant Gordon Graham, son of Hon. Lawrence Graham, Lakefield, of the 2nd Battalion, first overseas Canadian contingent, who is invalided home, was given a splendid reception here this evening at the Grand Trunk station an enthusiastic crowd acclaimed him, and he was escorted through the town by the 58th. regiment band and a long procession of autos. He enlisted as a private in the 2nd. Battalion with the machine gun section. Shortly before the battle of St Julien he was in the hospital with a broken arm, but hearing of the start of the battle, he evaded the hospital guards and walked thirty miles to join the colors. His zeal and bravery were recognized by promotion to the rank of lieutenant. Later he was wounded and sent to England and invalided home.

(Special to The Guardian).  
TORONTO, August 3.—Maritime: Increasing easterly and north-easterly winds; comparatively cold, with showers in some localities.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was rather hot and very disagreeable.

The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 67 deg. above zero, and at nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 64 above. At nine last night 50 above. The coldest the previous night was 58 deg. above zero.

The tide will be high this afternoon at 4.40 and tomorrow at 5.47. It will be high tomorrow morning at 4.08 and Thursday at 4.52.

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The length of today will be 14 hours and forty-four minutes.

Minards Liniment cures garget in cows.

Minards Liniment Cures Diphtheria

## GERMANS MAY NOT REPLY TO U. S. NOTE

(Special to The Guardian)  
BERLIN, Aug. 2.—Among the news items prepared to-day by the Overseas News Agency for transmission by wireless telegraph abroad was the following: "Notwithstanding reports to the contrary the German Government has not yet decided whether the American note regarding German submarine warfare will be answered. The Government awaits the text to be announced of the American note to Britain before deciding what steps shall be taken."

(Special to The Guardian).  
LONDON, Aug. 2.—While the Austro-Germans continue to tighten the wings of their great eastern battle front with success at both extremities, including the occupation of Mitau in the north and further progress beyond Chelm in south-east Poland, the situation before Warsaw remains unchanged and obscure. Few additional details have reached London concerning plans for the abandonment of the city, but apparently the time has not arrived for the Russians to relinquish their increasingly precarious hold on the capital or at least no word of its evacuation has come to London. Ivanogorod, south-east of Warsaw, heretofore erroneously reported invested, is now reported to state in fact, according to a British announcement, but from Ivanogorod eastward to Chelm and beyond the Russians, who had to abandon the railway, are fighting most desperately in an endeavour to hold up Field Marshal Von Mackensen's advance northward into Poland, a movement which seriously threatens the Russian centre retiring from Warsaw.

The western theatre has furnished nothing to alter the general situation it remains for the British navy to furnish an unexpected contribution to the day's news with the sinking of a German destroyer off the German coast by a submarine and a strange assortment of performances by another British undersea boat operating in the Sea of Marmora. This craft not only sank a German destroyer but also launched a torpedo at lights in the Golden Horn, presumably awaiting munitions from the arsenal, but with its guns bombarded, and for a time tied up, the railway skirting the Asiatic coast, delaying a troop train and causing havoc among ammunition depots. In addition the submarine considerably damaged Turkish shipping and sunk one craft believed to be a gunboat.

Pronouncements in the Duma at Petrograd and by the Russian Ambassador at London indicate that Russia and England are anxious to brand as unfounded the recurrent reports that the Russian people are disgruntled at the showing Great Britain has made in the west, which might create a situation unfavourable to the continued unity of the Allies. No hint of separate peace or dissatisfaction at England's policy comes from any authoritative source, and Count Benckendorff made it plain that while there may have been some sentimental popular feeling in his country for a diversion in the west to relieve the strain in Russian, there had been no criticism emanating from those who understood the military situation.

(Special to the Guardian).  
LONDON, Aug. 2.—A statement issued by the Admiralty this evening says: "The Vice-Admiral commanding the eastern Mediterranean reports that one of the British submarines operating in the Sea of Marmora, torpedoed a large steamer (3,000 tons) off Mudania Pier, which had several vessels secured alongside. The explosion was very heavy. A small steamer close by was torpedoed. Another report says a gunboat was torpedoed in the Sea of Marmora. Sighting powder mills were fired on, but owing to darkness the result could not be ascertained. The railroad one mile west of Kara Burno was bombarded and the line blocked temporarily, so that a troop train was unable to pass. It was being fired at as it steamed back, three truck loads of ammunition being blown up."

(Special to The Guardian).  
ROME, Aug. 2.—Prisoners taken by the Italian forces now number 17,000, including 380 officers.

(Special to The Guardian).  
LONDON, Aug. 2.—The Weekly Despatch says it understands that the British Government is about to declare cotton contraband, and that it will offer compensation to planters and make new arrangements with the neutral countries of Europe. The paper adds that it is stated that the Government is also taking up the question of modifying the order-in-council for the satisfaction of the authorities at Washington.

(Special to The Guardian).  
LONDON, Aug. 2.—According to a despatch from Berlin, received by Reuters Telegram Company, by way of Amsterdam, the battle cruiser which was to have been named Ersatz Hertha, and which was launched Sunday at Wilhelmshaven was christened by order of the Emperor, Von Hindenburg.

This new battle cruiser is of 28,000 tons. She was laid down in July 1913, and was to have been completed in 1916.

(Special to The Guardian).  
ROTTERDAM, July 31.—A despatch to The London Daily News says: Because the people of Ghent were the national colors on Belgium's national day, the following proclamation by the German Government has been posted on the walls of the town: "I forbid from to-day the wearing, showing, buying and selling of the Belgian colors, portraits or pictures of the royal family, or green leaves with or without inscription, or any other display of colour combinations meant to indicate political inclinations. I forbid all Belgians to wear insignia of an order or decoration. For any of these offences a maximum fine of 5,000 marks, or a maximum term of five years' imprisonment, or both, will be inflicted."

(Special to The Guardian).  
SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 2.—Life saving crews of tugs early to-day went to the assistance of the American-Hawaiian steamer Georgian at Duxbury Reef, a few miles north of Golden Gate, where the freighter went ashore in a dense fog last night. Captain Nicholas and a crew of more than thirty men were aboard the stranded vessel.

The German destroyer G-196 was completed in 1911. The vessels displaced 689 tons and was capable of travelling at a speed of more than thirty-two knots an hour. She was fitted with two 24 horse power three torpedo tubes. Her complement in normal times was 73 officers and men.

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## ALLIES MAKE PROGRESS IN WESTERN THEATRE

(Special to The Guardian)  
PARIS, Aug. 2.—Activity by the War Office to-night—"Activity of artillery has been less marked in Artois and the Valley of the Aisne. A number of shells have been thrown into Arras and Soissons. In Argonne there was a spirited infantry battle on the night of July 31 in the region of Hill No. 213, when the Germans occupied one of our trenches, which was counter-attacked by our troops and recovered in part.

"During the course of the day, after having made use of flaming liquids the enemy launched a violent attack against our trenches in the region of

Marlo Theres, and gained a foothold in one of them. We immediately counter-attacked and regained the greater part of the ground lost. On the heights of the Meuse and Woeyre there was the usual cannonade, more intense around Champlon. In the Vosges a succession of engagements has been going on since the evening of Aug. 1 before positions which we converted on the heights of Linze, of Schratzmann and of Barrenkopf. We have carried several German trenches, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses and taking fifty prisoners belonging to two different regiments."

(Special to The Guardian)  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Germany's first response to the last American note on submarine warfare has come from the German Admiralty, which has requested that American ships have the American flag painted on the sides in proportions large enough to be recognized by submarine commanders. The German Foreign Office requests at Berlin that American ship companies be accordingly informed.

(Special to The Guardian)  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Germany's reply to the last American note on the sinking of the Wm. P. Frye, received here to-day, is understood to reiterate the contention that under the Prussian-American treaty of 1828 Germany can continue to destroy American ships carrying contraband if she pays for them. Germany declines to accept the American contention that the treaty protects ships from destruction and holds it only necessary to pay damages after the prize court determines the facts.

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## GERMANY DECLINES TO ACCEPT CONTENTION OF UNITED STATES

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## CONDENSED ADS. TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

ONE CENT per word each insertion for advertising in this column. Cash must accompany orders. Minimum charges, twenty-five cents.

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