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CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 1916

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YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS

Another Attack on Shell Committee in which Previously Proved False Statements were Re-iterated. Sir Thomas White Effectually Disposed of Opposition Insinuations. Kyte of Nova Scotia Undertook to Restore Damage Done by Carvell and Failed.

(From our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, March 28.—A determined effort on the part of the Opposition to underpin their demand for an investigation of the Imperial shell purchases in Canada, marked the final stage of the debate on Sir Wilfrid Laurier's resolution. This effort was put forward by Mr. George W. Kyte of Richmond, N.S., team mate of F. B. Carvell, in prosecuting inquiries before the Public Accounts Committee. Mr. Kyte set himself to accomplish two things, first, to restore the damaged case presented to the House some weeks ago by Mr. Carvell and later badly damaged by the speech of the Solicitor-General, and secondly, to present new material with regard to the alleged irregularities in the transactions of Col. J. Wesley Allison. As a means of salvaging the Carvell case Mr. Kyte presented a statement secured by Mr. Carvell from the Imperial Munitions Board with reference to western shell orders. With respect to these orders there had been a wide gulf between the statements of Mr. Carvell and Hon. Arthur Meighen as to dates and deliveries. The statement obtained by Mr. Carvell and presented by Mr. Kyte agreed with the statement made to the House by the Solicitor-General. Mr. Kyte, however, reasoned to the contrary. The Richmond Liberal spoke till after eleven o'clock, having begun shortly after five, and did not reach the end of his speech until late. He then read to the House a series of declarations purporting to show that Col. Allison had taken very large shell fuse orders to the United States, had placed them with mushroom companies, newly organized for the purpose of producing plants and the heavy advance payments were made to these companies. Mr. Kyte said that nine days before the contracts were given by the Shell Committee an agreement was entered into between E. B. Carvell, president of the American Ammunition Company, one of the firms B. F. Yokum of

New York and E. W. Bassick of Bridgport, Conn., in which it was declared that by virtue of their services in obtaining the contract for 2,500,000 fuses from the Shell Committee, the three men were entitled to a commission of one million dollars, or 40 cents a fuse. This sum was to be divided as follows:—To Yokum, \$475,000; to Bassick, \$275,000, and to Cadwell, \$250,000. Mr. Kyte told the House that in September 1915 another partnership was entered into by J. Wesley Allison and one Eugene Lignati to use all their efforts for their mutual advantage and profit to secure contracts for supplies to be exported to certain European countries. This partnership Mr. B. F. Yokum joined a few months later. Mr. Kyte said that the agreement dissolving last September gave information regarding a number of contracts in which the partners had been interested and the sums of money each had received. He asserted that the \$475,000 received by Yokum as commission on the contract for fuses between the Shell Committee and the American Ammunition Company was divided, Lignati being given \$50,000 and Allison and Yokum sharing the balance equally. On a contract for 500,000 cartridge cases awarded by the Shell Committee to the Edward Valve Manufacturing Company, the partnership had secured 20,000, of which \$25,000 went to Lignati. Mr. Kyte also stated that other contracts were some executed and some pending for rifles, picric acid, powder and chemicals. If all these contracts were consummated Lignati would be paid a total of \$266,000 and Allison and Yokum would have \$1,000,000 between them.

(From our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, March 28.—Sir Thomas White, who followed the member for Richmond in the debate on the Imperial Munitions Board, had attempted to support fundamentally false statements by adding to them. The Finance Minister showed that statement after statement made by Mr. Carvell and shown by the Solicitor-General to have been incorrect. Sir Thomas emphasized the fact that in all that had been said by Opposition members there was no charge of fraud, dishonesty, or corruption against members of the Shell Committee. He questioned whether any good purpose would be served by investigating the work of a defence committee and pointed out that no real investigation could take place without the bringing of witness from the War Office and without the consent of the Imperial Government, as to the prices paid and the orders placed by the Shell Committee to the Dominion Government had no authority and therefore no responsibility. Dealing with the fuse contracts, Sir Thomas explained that large initial payments were not unusual but a rule guaranteeing to whether this had been done in the case under discussion. Referring to a statement by Mr. Kyte that Sir Sam Hughes had signed an endorsement for the contracts Sir Thomas explained that the Minister of Militia had done this on behalf of the Imperial and not of the Canadian Government. At half-past twelve the Finance Minister adjourned the debate, stating that he had a good deal more to say and some things to look into. Other speakers to-day were Mr. F. F. Pardee of Westambton, and Mr. W. A. Boies of South Simcoe.

THE WEATHER. TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

(Special to the Guardian.) TORONTO, March 29.—Maritime: Fair and mild. THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was clear and mild. The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 37 degrees above zero. At nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 34 degrees above; at nine last night 34 degrees above. The coldest the previous night was 31 deg. above zero. The tide will be high this morning at 7.25 and tomorrow at 8.34; it will be high this evening at 6.36 and tomorrow at 6.27; it rises tomorrow at 5.43 and Friday at 5.41. The moon sets this afternoon at 1.24. The last quarter of the moon was on Sunday, March 26th, at 12.12 p.m. There will be a new moon on Sunday, April 2nd, at 12.21 p.m. The length of today will be twelve hours and forty-one minutes.

GERMANS AGAIN SUFFER SEVERE CHECK AT VERDUN

Bombardment of Great Violence Against French Positions, Followed by Furious Infantry Attack which was Repelled by French Curtain of Fire. Heavy Fighting Along both Sides of the Meuse. German Battery Exploded by French Gun Fire.

(Special to the Guardian.) LONDON, March 28.—Another determined attempt by the Germans to break through the French lines north-west of Verdun resulted in failure with heavy losses to the Germans. After a day's intense artillery preparations another effort to lessen the six miles intervening between them and the Paris-Verdun railway and the nine miles still between them and Verdun, the Germans launched a great infantry attack on the Hautcourt Bethincourt sector. Successive waves of Germans were thrown into the fray, but their attempts were put down by the curtain of fire of the French and volleys from the rifles of French infantry. Still intermittent bombardment is going on north-east of Verdun. In the Woivre region the French have been shelling German positions; in Argonne they are bombarding the German lines in the north-east, while in the Vosges artillery action is marked on both sides. On the British front in the St. Eloi sector the Germans opened a heavy artillery fire on the British forces holding ground gained Monday. British artillery replied effectively and, according to the British official state-

ment, these positions are still in the hands of the British. In Postavy region on the Russian front Berlin reports that onslaughts of the Russians against German lines have been held and that the attacking forces suffered heavy casualties. A semi-official despatch from Berlin says the Russians attacked their new offensive with sixty divisions over a front of 120 kilometres and that their losses have been less than 30,000 men. Heavy Italian bombardments of Austrian positions on the Doberdo heights along Isonzo continue. A German air squadron dropped bombs on the harbour works at Saloniki and the Entente Allied encampment north of Saloniki. A German destroyer has been rammed and sunk by the British light cruiser Cleopatra. There were no German survivors.

(Special to the Guardian.) PARIS, March 28.—A bombardment of great violence against French positions from Avocourt to Bethincourt, west of the Meuse, was followed this afternoon by a German attack launched against Harcourt on the Malancourt front, in successive waves. It was repulsed with heavy losses, according to an official statement by the French War Office to-night. The text of the statement follows:—In Argonne our artillery continued active against enemy organizations north of Houtyette in the sector of La Fontaine aux Charmes, and Houte Chevauchee, as well as in eastern Argonne. Our fire directed on an enemy battery in Montvacoium wood caused a violent explosion. West of the Meuse bombardment was resumed in the course of the day against our positions from Avocourt to Bethincourt. About three o'clock the Germans launched a powerful attack against our Harcourt-Malancourt front. The successive waves of assault were repulsed by our curtain of fire and the fire of our infantry. Our second lines east of the Meuse have been bombarded. In Woivre our artillery concentrated its fire on visible points of the enemy front. In the Vosges artillery was quite spirited in the region of St. Osweire, Muhlbach and Hartmanns-Wellerkopf. The Belgian official communication says there is nothing particular to report.

British Airmen Bombard Turks

LONDON, March 28.—A Suez report says that a successful air raid was made on the Turkish advance base 100 miles east of the Canal by British airmen on March 24th. Our airmen routed a body of the Turkish infantry, descending to 200 feet and opening fire with a machine gun.

Britain Also Had Blizzard

LONDON, March 28.—In the midlands, north of England, in Wales and in one of the worst blizzards in a quarter of a century raged last night and this morning.

Serbs Treated Worse Than the Armenians

ROME, March 28.—The Governments of the Allies have secured evidence and documents which will shortly be published proving that Austria and Bulgaria were guilty of horrible crimes in Serbia, where massacres worse than in Armenia were perpetrated. According to the evidence which the Serbians have communicated to the Italian Government and the Pope, the victims exceeded 700,000. Whole districts and towns were depopulated. Women, children and old men were shut up in a church by Austrians and either bayoneted or suffocated by asphyxiating gas. In one church in Belgrade it is alleged, 3,000 women, children and old men were suffocated. The Serbian refugees stated that they were present when bombs and machines for producing asphyxiating gas were distributed to the Bulgarians.

Another British Steamer Sunk

LONDON, March 28.—The British steamer, Empress of Midland, has been sunk.

Panama Canal To Open Again On April 15th

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Official prediction is made that the Panama Canal probably will be reopened for the passage of ships of thirty feet draft on April 15. This prediction is in the form of a statement by the Washington office of the Panama Canal, stating that this announcement was made yesterday by Col. Chester Waring, acting governor of the canal zone. Conditions in Gaillard cut justify the prediction that the canal will be open for ships of 30 feet draft on April 15, subject to probable temporary delays thereafter to meet exigencies of dredging the canal to full width and depth and in removing shoals that may possibly develop. The canal has been closed to navigation since last September on account of slides at Gold Hill and Gaillard cut.

Washington To Ask If Germans Did It

(Special to the Guardian.) WASHINGTON, March 28.—The American Government, through the ambassador at Berlin, asked the German government if its submarines were responsible for the damage to the steamer Sussex and the sinking of the British steamer Englishman. Two additional steamers were sent to the bottom, the Eagle Point, a British vessel, presumably by a torpedo, and the Harriet, a Danish vessel, by a mine. The crews of both were saved.

Million Dollar Fire Strikes Oklahoma

TULSA, Okla., March 28.—Damage estimated at more than one million dollars was done in the oil fields near Dornight, when a fire, starting in a pile of refuse spread to the wells. Twelve wells are burning, 24 derricks have been destroyed, and many thousands of barrels of oil in tank-jets were lost to the flames. Oilmen feared that the loss would extend into many millions of dollars.

Bulgarians Will Scatter Mines

MILAN, March 28.—A Bucharest despatch to the Secolo says that the Bulgarians are making extensive military preparations along the Roumanian frontier. A number of boats laden with mines have arrived at Giurgevo, and it is believed that the Bulgarians intend to scatter the mines broadcast in the Danube. The Bulgarian newspapers, the despatch adds, are becoming daily more threatening in tone toward Roumania. Giurgevo is a Roumanian town on the Danube, forty miles south-west of Bucharest, of which it is the port.

Sir Edward Carson To Oppose Government

LONDON, March 28.—Sir Edward Carson is restored to health and is expected to preside to-day over the Conservative party's war committee, The Morning Post believes that he intends to form and lead an opposition to the Coalition Government and wishes him success declaring the Government weak.

TIE UP SILK PLANTS.

PATERSON, N.J., March 26.—The executive committee of the Brotherhood of American Silk Workers, which claim to include in its membership virtually every worker in all branches of the silk industry of Paterson, announced to-day that the manufacturers have been given until Wednesday to reply favourably to a demand for a nine-hour day. Unless the demand is granted, the committee announced, a strike will be ordered which will tie up all the city's silk plants. The Brotherhood declares it is working in harmony with the American Federation of Labour.

Bombs Dropped On Saloniki

LONDON, March 28.—Saloniki reports the bombardment on Monday by five German aeroplanes. 18 civilians were killed, the latter including a Greek officer; 21 wounded. The Germans lost two of their aeroplanes.

A Fortnights Results Of German Piracy

LONDON, March 28.—The Daily Telegraph says that the Germans in the new submarine warfare have, in less than a fortnight, sunk 70,000 tons of shipping, of which one-third belonged to neutrals.

Mr. John E. Redmond Opposes Exemption

LONDON, March 28.—John E. Redmond, Irish Leader, advises against the proposed public meeting to protest against further war taxation in Ireland. He adds that Ireland's highest interest is the speedy termination of the war and that the men who seek to prejudice Ireland in the eyes of the world by a ridiculous claim for exemption from war taxes are by their apathy, so-called neutrality, hostility to recruiting and their pro-Germanism giving their best to prolong the war. I congratulate the hon. gentleman that he did not make the stake any higher. —If you will give me a committee I will prove them to the hilt or apologize to this House and to the committee and say that I did not know what I am talking about. In fulfillment of that contract, it is the duty of the hon. gentleman, in respect to these three companies to which I have already alluded, to admit that he did not know what he was talking about and to apologize to the House and to the country. I wait with considerable interest, but with more interest than hope, to see what

COMMING EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

ONE CENT per word each insertion for advertising in this column. Cash must accompany orders. Minimum charges twenty-five cents. *Tag Day will be held on Easter Saturday in aid of the P. E. Island Hospital. 8006. **All notes and bills not paid before April 10, 1916 will be handed over for collection. A. Parker Horne. 7977-3-29-M3p. *Lecture. Rev. E. P. Calder at Clyde River Hall on Wednesday March 29th. Sale of home-made candy. Admission 15 cents. 8001-3-29-M11. **Built with proper tools. The machines that make the REMINGTON Typewriter are wonderful, but no more wonderful than this business tool—so pliable in the hands of a competent writer. A. Milne Fraser, Halifax, N. S. 7990-3-29M11. **A pie social and sale of candy will be held in French River Hall, Wednesday, March 29th. Should evening prove unfavorable social will be held next fine evening. Admission 10 and 20 cents, ladies with baskets and sandy trees. Proceeds in aid of Patriotic purposes. Best of talent procured. Candy and pie of the choicest quality. Doors open at 7 p. m. Program begins at 7.30. 797813-29-M21. Minard's Liniment cures Diphtheria.

CARVELL CHARGES EXPLODED IN MASTERLY MANNER BY MEIGHEN

In the Course of an Exhaustive Analysis of the Charges Made by Carvell and Pugsley the Solicitor General Shows that they were Grounded on Newspaper Reports Traced to the Grit "News Factory" and without a Shadow of Foundation in Fact.

(Continued) We pass from the Dominion Harvest company. The International Supply company got an order, he says, for 10,000, and not a shell had been delivered. Here is another example, according to my hon. friend, of the political end of the business of the Shell Committee. The International Supply company got their order for 10,000 shells on the 12th day of January, 1916, from the Munitions Board, and not from the Shell Committee at all. The Shell Committee had nothing to do with it. One of these companies—I will not say which because I would not like to be wrong—has had its order cancelled since by the Munitions Board for failure to deal fairly with its employees. Then we come to the third one. We have passed the other two, and I am sure the hon. member is proud of the charges he is levelling against these business concerns in Canada and against the Shell Committee, that has nothing to do with them. The Manitoba Bridge and Iron Works are next. The hon. gentleman says that they got an order for 20,000 shells and that not a shell has been delivered. He had hardly taken his seat until the answer to this libel was hurled at his head in a telegram from the Manitoba Bridge and Iron Works themselves and he was compelled to admit that they got an order for 20,000 shells and that not a shell has been delivered. He had hardly taken his seat until the answer to this libel was hurled at his head in a telegram from the Manitoba Bridge and Iron Works themselves and he was compelled to admit that they got an order for 20,000 shells and that not a shell has been delivered. He had hardly taken his seat until the answer to this libel was hurled at his head in a telegram from the Manitoba Bridge and Iron Works themselves and he was compelled to admit that they got an order for 20,000 shells and that not a shell has been delivered. 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