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SIR ROBERT BORDEN RECEIVES FARMERS

Delegates Who Asked for Exemption of Farmers of Ages 20 to 22 are Told That Need of Reinforcements is Greatest. Exemptions will not be Allowed.

(Special to The Guardian)

OTTAWA, May 4.—With great deliberation, Sir Robert Borden told about 300 farmers at the House today that after giving serious consideration to the question of drafting farmers between the ages of 20 and 22 for service overseas, the Government had decided that the necessity for reinforcements was more pressing than the need for increased production.

The Prime Minister did not mince matters, but told them firmly that reinforcements must be obtained and that the government had decided on the only plan possible under the circumstances. He appreciated the difficulties the farmers would be placed in, but called their attention to the fact that the hardships suffered by the people of Canada were not to be compared with those endured by the people in Great Britain and France.

HOME RULE BILL UNDER DISCUSSION

Compromise Likely to be Agreed Upon, Control of Customs and Excise Remaining with Imperial Government While Large Grant of Money will be Given Ireland.

(Special to The Guardian)

LONDON, May 4.—The form of the new Home Rule Bill continues to be the subject of discussion in the newspapers and among politicians. According to the belief current at Westminster, the Irish Parliament will be given powers which will be a combination of those recommended by the Irish conventions majority report, and those outlined by the letter written by Premier David Lloyd-George to Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the committee.

It is expected that control of customs and excise will be reserved to the Imperial Government until after the war as stipulated in the Premier's letter, but this will be offset by the grant of a large sum of money for Ireland from the Imperial Treasury, and a few millions for urban housing.

The Ulster committee will be a feature of the parliament, this committee having power of veto over legislation affecting Ulster exclusively, possibly over the administration.

LLOYD GEORGE DESERTED BY FAMOUS PAPER

Horatio Battomley's "John Bull" with Two Million Circulation Has No Further Use for Lloyd George and Says He Must Go —Critical Political Situation Continues.

By Arthur S. Draper

LONDON, May 4.—A significant feature of the political situation is the desertion of "John Bull" with its two million circulation from the Lloyd George ranks. Under the heading, "Why Lloyd George will go," Horatio Bottomley, the editor, predicts in this week's issue the downfall of the present government when the Home Rule bill reaches the House of Lords.

In the Commons today Bonar Law said he was unable to give the day upon which the measure would be presented to parliament.

An announcement was made in today's newspapers of the extension of the period of voluntary enlistment in Ireland.

The appointment as Chief Secretary for Ireland of E. Shortt, a Liberal who voted against conscription in Ireland, is interpreted in some quarters as an indication the government does not intend to attempt to enforce coscription.

Crisis May Develop

Though some political observers believe the situation will continue unchanged until after the introduction of the Home Rule measure others think a crisis is likely to develop almost immediately. The government's opponents are following the tactics they adopted some months ago when they began to snipe Lloyd George and his colleagues without attempting to press for a decision. Asquith refuses to make a move which could be interpreted as an attempt to obstruct the government, though many of his speeches certainly are calculated to cause it much embarrassment. Lord Hugh Cecil and Sir Edward Carson seem determined to follow these sniping methods from the Unionist benches, while the labor members remain among the government opposition.

Nationalists Missing

The Irish Nationalists have deserted parliament completely. The Conservative "Morning Post", "Evening Globe," "Spectator" and "Saturday Review" are decidedly critical of the government and press for a reorganization of the war cabinet. The Liberal Daily News and Evening Star and Nation have grown more hostile to the government. Instead of consistently supporting the premier on all questions the Northcliffe press are now criticising favorably or adversely according to the merits of the cases as it sees them. The Liberal Daily Chronicle is following much the same policy.

It should be remembered that Lloyd George is not the leader either of the Liberals or the Conservatives, and his position depends largely on the amount of newspaper backing he enjoys. Apparently the government is exceedingly dissatisfied with the present position and anxious for an early test of strength which would give it a new lease of political life or result in its demise.

The responsibility of leadership is so great few are willing to undertake the duties of high office. Though critics abound, they fight shy of assuming responsibility.

Chaplains for Royal Air Forces

(Special to the Guardian.)

OTTAWA, May 4—Ottawa has acceded to the request of the Royal Air Forces for the attachment of chaplains of the C.E.F. to each of the camps in Toronto military district. Hitherto the airmen have been without chaplains.

R. N. W. Police Will Supply Cavalry

(Special to The Guardian)

OTTAWA, May 4.—It is announced that the Royal Northwest Mounted Police will supply a squadron of cavalry to serve as reinforcements for the cavalry overseas.

THE WEATHER TEMPERATURE. TIDE, MOON, ETC

TORONTO, May 6.—Fair, not much change in temperature.

The tide will be high this evening at 7.46 and tomorrow at 9.03; it will be high tomorrow morning at 8.25 and Wednesday at 9.14.

The sun sets this evening at 8.26 and tomorrow at 8.27; it rises tomorrow morning at 6.02 and Wednesday at 6.

The last quarter of the moon was on Friday, May 3rd at 6.26 p. m.

There will be a new moon on Friday May 10th at 9.01 a. m.

The length of today will be fourteen hours and twenty one minutes.

POWER PLANT AT SOO DAMAGED

SOO, Ont., May 4.—Fire this morning destroyed a large portion of the power plant of the Great Lakes Power Company with a loss of $150,000. The street car service and electric lights as well as most of the smaller plants of the city were put out of business.

COMING EVENTS. ANNOUNCEMENTS. MEETINGS, ETC.

**YOUNG PIGS WANTED— John McQuillan & Co., Charlottetown, will purchase from 100 to 150 young pigs. 4762-5-2M3i.

STILL THE GERMANS FAIL TO BREAK ALLIED DEFENCE

British and French Not Only Repulse German Attacks but Have Gained Ground at Several Important Points. Another Big German Offensive Has Begun. Heavy Artillery and Aerial Fighting Almost Continuous. Much Damage Done to German Defences. Zeebrugge Again Bombed Heavily.

(Special to The Guardian)

LONDON, May 4.—In local fighting last night south of Villers-Bretonneux, says Field Marshal Haig's communication issued tonight, "our troops cooperated with the French, and secured a few prisoners."

The enemy artillery showed considerable activity this morning north of Albert, in the Beaumont Hamel sector. Apart from artillery activities on both sides on the other parts of the front there is nothing to report.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY ON THE AVRE

(Special to The Guardian)

PARIS, May 4.—The statement issued by the war office tonight reads: "There was no infantry fighting during the course of the day, but there was great activity by the opposing artillery in the region north and south of the Avre. Our batteries took under their fire and dispersed bodies of enemy troops south of Villers-Bretonneux and before Castel. There were lively artillery enagements on the right bank of the Meuse."

GERMANS OPENED BIG OFFENSIVE SOUTH OF YPRES

(Special to The Guardian)

LONDON, May 4.—The Germans opened an intense bombardment on practically the entire northern half of the Flanders battlefront early this morning.

Field Marshal Haig reported the enemy opened an intense bombardment early this morning in the neighborhood of Locre, to the southward of Ypres. His statement said the enemy artillery is showing great activity from the Nieppe forest to the western sector.

The area of cannonading indicates that should the attack develop it will be a frontal sweep westward against Hazebrock and a flanking thrust northward to encircle Ypres, from the west sector.

Under bombardment before Hazebrock is a seven mile front from the Nieppe forest northward to Meterin.

EIGHTEEN ENEMY AIRPLANES BROUGHT DOWN

LONDON, May 4.—The British official communication dealing with aviation issued tonight says:

"A thick haze Thursday interfered with the work of our airplanes. Three and a half tons of bombs were dropped on Bapaume and other targets in the battle areas. At times the fighting in the air was severe. Fourteen hostile machines were downed and four were driven down out of control. Five of ours are missing.

MORE BOMBS DROPPED ON ZEEBRUGGE

During the night five and a half tons of bombs were dropped on Chaulnes, Juniville, the railway junction at Bapaume and at Caix. Three very large bombs were dropped from a low height on the lockgates at Zeebrugge.

SUCCESSFUL RAID ON ENEMY POSITIONS

Friday another most successful raid was carried out against the railway station and sidings at Thieonville. The Carlshutte works again were hit and several bursts were seen on the station, sidings and gas works. All our machines returned."

"PEACE OFFENSIVE"

(Special to The Guardian)

ONDON, May 4.—In the personal opinion of Lord Robert Cecil, Minister of Blockade, the failure of Germany's "knockout offensive" on the western front will result in a big peace offensive directed mainly against Great Britain and possibly made in an attractive form, but which will not afford any terms the Allies can look at.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

(Special to the Guardian.)

LONDON, May 4—The text of the official statement yesterday is as follows: "Local fighting took place to our advantage last night in the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux. We carried out successful raids south of Arras and east of St. Venant in the course of which fifty prisoners and five machine guns were captured by our troops. "The artillery has been active on both sides during the night between Givenchy and the forest Dieppe in the neighborhood of Locre and south of Ypres."

FRENCH TROOPS GAIN GROUND.

(Special to the Guardian.)

PARIS, May 4—The official statement reads: "In the region south of Villers-Bretonneux there was violent artillery firing by both the combatants as well as fairly spirited infantry engagements near the monument in the course of which the French troops gained some ground. "South of the Avre the French late yesterday carried out a local operation which met with perfect success. Our troops attacked the German positions between Hailes and Castel, a front of about 1¼ miles, we took possession of Hill 82 and the wood bordering on the Avre. The number of prisoners taken exceeds 100 including four officers.

"In the region of the Ailette the French repulsed a German raiding party. French reconnoitering detachments were active, especially in the Woyre and in Lorraine bring back prisoners."

FRENCH AND BRITISH BETTER THEIR POSITIONS

Having been defeated with heavy losses in every phase of the fighting around Ypres, the Germans have attempted no further onslaughts. Inaction prevails before the positions held by the British and French troops, especially those in the hands of the British, which it had been the ambition of the Germans to capture, separate the British and French armies, and open the way for a rush to the Channel ports.

Since Monday what activity there has been in this sector was carried out by the British and French, both of whom have materially bettered their positions, the French near Locre and the British at Meteren. On both sectors ground was captured and prisoners were taken.

ARTILLERY NEVER CEASES

The pause in the offensive, however, apparently is not to be taken as meaning the end of the German attempts to crack the Allied line. All along the front, the big guns are roaring and shells of all calibres are ploughing the terrain and the areas behind them, and fresh reserves to take the place of the scores of men killed, wounded or made prisoner, are being hurried to the front.

Indeed advices from the British front in Flanders are to the effect that another furious drive by Von Arim is in immediate prospect. Emperor William has been at the front delivering flamboyant speeches to the troops in an endeavor to spur them on to victory.

Meanwhile British and French artillerists are sending a veritable rain of shells on Mont Kemmel, the chief point of vantage gained by the Germans in the Ypres sector. Thus far the Allied guns have held back all attempts by the enemy to reinforce his men on the hill, and if the good work is kept up the hill top is likely to prove a death trap for its captors.

Nothing has as yet been vouchsafed regarding to the Inter-Allied War Council, which is holding sessions at Versailles which are expected to bring forth decisions of great moment. Representatives of all the Allies are in attendance.

FAITH IN GENERAL FOCH

Great faith in the ability of General Foch and the Allied commanders on the Western front again has been expressed by M. Clemenceau, the French Premier. Returning from a visit to the front, the Premier said he considered the line stable and that as a result of the steps taken by the various commanders, it was outside the realms of immediate danger.

The fighting on all the other fronts except in Palestine and Mesopotamia continues of a minor character. In both the latter theatres, however, the British have returned to the attack and gained important successes over the Turks. Progress has been made north of Bagdad along the Tigris River and in Palestine several positions have been captured and prisoners taken.

German newspapers have taken another tangent in their talk of peace. It is asserted by a Cologne journal that Pope Benedict on Whitsunday, May 19, will put forward concrete offers to mediate between the warring factions. The reported intention of the Pope is said to have had a sympathetic reception in Berlin. There is no confirmation from any source that the Pontiff purposes again to offer his services in the direction of peace.

MAN WHO HELPED TO START THE WAR DEAD

LONDON, May 2—Gavrio Prinzip, the assassin of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife, at Sarajevo, Bosnia, died yesterday in a fortress near Prague, of tuberculosis.

Prinzip shot to death the Austrian archduke and his wife while they were on a visit to the Bosnian capital on June 28, 1914, and out of this double murder the European war developed. Prinzip, who was a student, was found guilty and sentenced to twenty years imprisonment.

U. S. IRON AND STEEL COMMANDEERED BY GOVERNMENT

(Special to The Guardian)

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Every ton of steel and pig iron in the country virtually has been commandeered by the government for war purposes, and any surplus remaining after war needs are met will be distributed to non war industries under strict government supervision.

WASHINGTON, May 4.— Details involving a project to construct the largest Government arsenal in the country will be decided shortly by the Ordnance Department, as a necessary step in the expansion of the artillery program. The arsenal, which will be built by the Government, will be on a scale greater than the Watertown or Watervliet establishments. The plan is now under consideration by Colonel Samuel McRoberts of the Procurement Division of the Ordnance Department.

Every type of modern artillery will be forged, machined and assembled in the new plant, including guns of the largest calibre. The plant also will furnish the projectiles required for these guns.

The Pittsburgh District will be chosen as the most desirable site for the new arsenal, in order to bring manufacturing close to the supplies of raw material, and thus save much difficulty in regard to materials, labor and transportation. According to the present plans arrangements will be made with the United States Steel Corporation to obtain the necessary ingots from open hearth furnaces in conjunction with the arsenal plant or in the vicinity. That company will also be drawn upon for manufacturing experience. The arsenal equipment, it is said, will have forging presses of the heaviest type and the other equipment for forging the ingots.

Quebec Living Up for Service

OTTAWA, May 4.—"We don't anticipate any more trouble in Quebec" said H. E. Lavigueur, M. P., Mayor of Quebec when interviewed at the King Edward yesterday morning. "Although we are against conscription now that the law is passed we know we will have to obey the law and there will not be any trouble." The law will affect the farming class. We certainly think it will be a disaster for agriculture in our provinces.

"The men of Quebec are responding very well. All our young men are enlisting many of them before they are called up. A large number of our best families have sent their sons. Only recently I was talking to the son of Sir Lomer Gouin who is commanding a tank corps. The son of Sir George Garneau is also in it."

General Hughes Returns to Canada

(Special to the Guardian.)

OTTAWA, May 4—Brigadier-General, St. Pierre Hughes, brother of Sir Sam Hughes, who went overseas in command of the 21st Battalion has come back and it is said my succeed Colonel G. N. Ogilvie as Assistant Adjutant-General, of Kingston District. General Elliot, Deputy Minister of Militia, says he understands that Gen. Hughes came home to take a position in the Department of Justice. It was possible however he was to have the office of Assistant Adjutant General at Kingston.

Both Belligerents Care For Babies

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FLANDERS, May 4.—The recent fighting in Flanders has furnished many unusual and trying experiences for civilians living near the front but none of these was more amazing than that of two tiny French children who are in a British military hospital. These tots were among the few unfortunate persons in Neuve Eglise when the Germans overran that place. The town immediately became a storm centre which was continually changing hands, and Germans took these two babies into trenches for their protection. During a counter attack the British stormed and captured the trench. They found the little ones safe and sound and brought them back. The children had been living under terrine gun fire, and how they escaped death cannot be accounted for.

Another French baby was found by two British signal men at another place. As the child had no protection the soldiers took it with them to their billets in a barn. That night the signal men went to sleep with the baby between them, so that no harm might come to it. German airmen bombed the barn and both the "Tommies" were killed. The child escaped injury and later was rescued by other soldiers.

U. S. CONCLUDE TREATY WITH NORWAY

Norway Assured of Supplies, None of Which Shall Go Directly or Indirectly to Central Powers.

(Special to The Guardian)

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Signing of a general commercial agreement between the United States and Norway, the first agreement of the kind to be entered into by America with one of the North European neutrals was announced tonight by the war trade board.

Under the agreement Norway is assured of supplies to cover her estimated needs so far as they can be furnished without detriment to the war needs of the United States and its associates and Norway on her part agrees to permit unhampered export to America and its allies of all Norwegian products not needed for home consumption.

It is provided that none of the supplies imported from the United States or its associates or forwarded with the aid of American bunker coal shall go directly or indirectly to the Central Powers, or be used to replace commodities exported to those countries. This applies to anything produced by any auxiliaries to production obtained under the agreement.

HUN LONG RANGE GUN PUT OUT OF ACTON

(Special to the Guardian)

PARIS, May 5.—News has just been received from the front that a French gun made a direct hit yesterday on one of the long range German cannons with which Paris is being bombarded and put it out of action.

SUCCESSFUL FRENCH RAID

PARIS, May 5.—The war office reports:

"There were rather heavy bombardments in the region of Ayre. The French carried out several raids near the Oise and Ollette Rivers and west of Lapipompelle, bringing back a number of prisoners. A German attack near Coirey and two others north and northeast of Rheims were without result. Everywhere else the night was calm."

BANK MANAGER COMMITTED FOR THEFT

(Special to The Guardian)

TORONTO, May 4.—At the request of his counsel who entered a plea of not guilty and asked for a trial by jury, Louis M. Maynard, former manager of the Dominion Bank branch at McCaul and Dundas streets, was yesterday formally committed for trial, charged with the theft of $3,000 from the bank on April 8th, and $50,000 during the year 1916-17. Magistrate Kingsford made the committal on the strength of the evidence of Detective Nursey, who stated when arersted and cautioned, Maynard said he had stolen money in excess of the amount charged while manager of the bank.

LIBERTY LOAN NOW REACHES THREE BILLION

(Special to The Guardian)

WASHINGTON, May 4.—With only one day of the third Liberty Loan campaign remaining, the total of subscriptions tonight rose nearly to the three billion dollar level.

Successful Sale For Soldier Comforts

(Special to The Guardian)

TORONTO, May 4.—At a rummage sale recently held by the Sir Douglas Haig auxiliary, the sum of $335.00 was realized. The success of the sale was due to the devoted efforts of Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. McKenzie. The money will be spent in providing comforts for the soldiers of the 201st Battalion.

Medical Services Were Never Better

(Special to the Guardian.)

OTTAWA, May 4—In the House yesterday Sir Sam Hughes asked if "in view of the scandalous condition" existing in the medical service in England it was the intention of the government to reinstate Col. "Dr." Herbert Bruce of Toronto.

Sir Robert Borden replied that he had no knowledge of such a situation existing and as far as he was able to say the services were never better.

SOLDIERS QUARANTINED

Lieut. Col. S. R. Jenkins has ordered 16 days quarantine of the men in the Armouries, owing to a suspected case of small pox developing in a recruit from Tignish. Twenty contacts have been isolated in the Armouries and the remainder confined to barracks in the Connolly Building. Literature for the use of the men is solicited. Ring 402.

ALLIANCE SHORT LIVED.

(Special to the Guardian.)

LONDON, May 4—The alliance of Sinn Feiners and Nationalists promises not to be long lived. A quarrel has broken out on the subject of the by-election in East Cavan which the Sinn Feiners persist in contesting despite Nationalist remonstrances. Thirty Nationalist Commoners speak there on May 5th in opposition to Griffiths the Sinn Feiner's candidate.

EXCITING SCENES IN PARLIAMENT

(Special to the Guardian.)

OTTAWA, May 4—The third day of the debate on the Budget Speech saw an attack by the Opposition on Sir Joseph Flavelle about which a rumor had been spread all day and which resulted in a fair attendance in the House. D. D. McKenzie, Cape Breton was the leader of the onslaught but it was not till after he had spoken on minor things for two full hours that he reached the "Pork Baron." He spoke over an hour on this subject and started in from the time of the contracts between the Imperial Munitions Board, the British Munitions Company and the Northern Electric Company and carried it on to the most recent investigation of the profits made by the Wm. Davies Company.

(Special to the Guardian.)

OTTAWA, ONT., May 4—The Budget debate made slow progress yesterday chiefly owing to a three hour and a half speech by Mr. D. D. McKenzie, South Cape Breton, who held up the procession of speakers. Mr. MacKenzie made a violent attack on Sir Joseph Flavelle and called for his retirement. He declared that "the time is long over due when the Baronet whose conscience knows no qualm should be retired from public life." He urged the government the petition the Imperial authorities to dismiss him as chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board.

MILITARY COMMITTEE TO GOVERN RAILWAYS

(Special to the Guardian.)

MONREAL, May 4—In order to facilitate military movements over the railroads a special military committee of the Canadian railway war board is shortly to be appointed. Especial attention will be paid by the new committee to the handling expeditiously of returned soldiers to their depots and homes. The committee will have the power to order the transference of cars from one railroad to another in the movement of troops. A representative of the government will be a member of the committee.

BRITISH LOSSES SINCE MARCH 21

(Special to the Guardian.)

WASHINGTON, May 4—The British losses in killed, wounded, captured and missing are said to be 250,000, according to information in the hands of the British mission at Washington. These figures are for the present offensive dating from March 21st.

CONDENSED SPECIALS

*FOR SALE PURE BRED HOLSTein bull 12 months old. L. D. McNutt, Malpeque. 4845-5-6M3tpd.

*LOST IN THIS CITY FRIDAY,—BAR pin, set with topaz and sapphires, Finder please leave at Guardian Office. 4832-5-6Mtf

*FOR SALE—35 ACRES CHOICE land, 4 miles from City, C. G. Duffy, Charlottetown. 4777-5-3Mtf.

*WILL EDWARD DORAN COMMUNicate at once with American Consul, Charlottetown, for information important to himself. 4814-5-M1i

*WANTED — BY THE FIRST OF May, a girl for general housework. Apply at Guardian Office. 4707-4-24tf

*FOR SALE OR RENT AT SOUTHport 2½ miles from Charlottetown 3½ acres of land with dwelling house and out buildings complete. Apply to A. D. MacDonald, Forest Hill, P. E. I. 4842-5-6M3tpd.

*THE FARADOR HAS EFFECTED hundreds of cures in P. E. Island. For sale or to lease. All rental money goes toward the purchase of the machine. W. E. Enman, Representative, 226 Richmond St., Charlottetown 4604-4-17M3wks