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PEACE POLICY OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT

Premier Asquith in Reply to a Peace Speech Repeated his Guildhall "Terms" that Britain would not Sheathe the Sword until Belgium and Serbia Recover all and More than they Lost.

(Special to the Guardian.)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—Premier Asquith found himself face to face in the House of Commons to-day with a new demand for the Government's views of peace. He took up the gauntlet almost eagerly, and in a brilliant fifteen minutes speech made it clear that the British Government's determination to carry on the war to the end without compromise had not abated a jot or a tittle since the early days of war. The only terms of peace Mr Asquith offered to the enemy were those contained in his famous Guildhall speech of November 1914, which he repeated: "We shall never sheath the sword, which we have not lightly drawn, until Belgium, and I will add Serbia, recover in full measure all and more than they sacrificed, until France is adequately secured against aggression, until the rights of the small nations of Europe are based upon an unassailable foundation and until the military domination of Prussia is wholly and finally destroyed."
The Premier's stern declaration created a deep impression in all parts of the House and this found a reflection subsequently in the lobbies.

The occasion for the Premier's announcement was a speech which Philip Snowden of the Independent Labour Party injected into the debate on the Consolidated Fund Bill, a routine measure providing appropriations mainly for interest on the national debt. Snowden went on to say that the time was ripe for peace negotiations, maintaining that there was little hope of crushing victory on either side and that if the war went on all the participants would be bankrupt in men and money.
Premier Asquith's speech was followed by a score of speeches, for the most part applauding the Premier's position.
Two or three peace advocates supported Snowden, but they were hardly tolerated. The only applause during the pro-peace speeches came from a spectator in the stranger's gallery, who was promptly ejected.
Stephen Walsh, for the Labour party, denied that Snowden expressed the opinions of organized labour. "The Allies cannot make peace overtures," he said, "while the Tiger has his claws in the vitals of Belgium, Serbia and Poland."

TERRIFIC BATTLE NOW RAGING IN VICINITY OF VERDUN

Seven German Army Corps Under Crown Prince Engaged Along 25 Mile Front. Bombardment of French Trenches Incessant. All Enemy Attacks so Far Repulsed.

(Special to the Guardian.)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—Troops belonging to seven German army corps under Crown Prince Frederick William are engaged along a twenty-five mile front north of Verdun in a desperate effort to drive back the French defending forces, probably with the onslaught of the great fortress of Verdun in view. There had been heavy fighting for considerable period in this district of the French war zone, but within the past few days the attacks of the Germans have taken additional strength. The battle line has been extended and now reaches from Malancourt on the west to Etain on the east, with Verdun in the centre only a few miles southward. The Germans claim to have made im-

portant advances, and to some extent these are admitted by the French War Office, which describes the battle as one of increasing intensity.
German preparations were extensive and in the bombardment of the French positions thousands of shells fell uninterupted. And as the French had foreseen this battle all their available guns were called into action and responded in kind to the heavy shelling of the Germans.
While at some points the French were unable to resist the onslaught of the attacking forces along much of the front, according to a Paris communication, the attacks were well sustained and very heavy losses were inflicted on the Germans.

(Special to the Guardian.)
PARIS, Feb. 23.—An announcement to-night by the War Office says the great battle of Verdun continues with growing intensity. It extends over a front of 25 miles and seven German army corps, 280,000 men, are engaged.
(Special to the Guardian.)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—British headquarters reports some activity in the neighbourhood of La Bassée Canal, North and east of Ypres. British artillery did considerable damage to enemy positions. On the extreme left they shelled German working parties and in grenade fighting in mine crater dispersed enemy grenadiers.

PROCEEDINGS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS

Resolution Calling for Free Wheat, Wheat Products and Potatoes, again Defeated. Military Matters Discussed and some Pointed Contradictions Made by Sir Sam Hughes and Hon. R. Rogers.

(From our own correspondent.)
OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—The House to-day negatived Mr. J. G. Turill's resolution calling for free wheat, wheat products and potatoes, the vote being 77 to 44, a government majority of 33. This was the second division so far this session but as the free wheat question has already been threshed out every year since the defeat of reciprocity it did not elicit a large vote as the figures indicate. If the farmers in the West were not receiving fair prices for their wheat, as was urged by the Grain Growers' Guide and Liberal agitators in parliament, the remedy was in the hands of that organization which, besides owning the Grain Growers' Guide, controlled a large portion of the grain buying business in the West and the export of not only Canadian wheat but American wheat as well, the Grain Growers' Guide Company, was the statement of Hon. Arthur Meighen, solicitor-general.

Mr. Meighen as usual went to the heart of the situation and in trenchant language pointed out the remedy. If the farmers were not receiving fair prices, as was urged, owing to a combination of millers and buyers who did not the Grain Growers' Company, instead of inspiring appeals to parliament to mend the situation, pay these farmers prices in the capacity of buyers of grain. The Company had made a profit of 27 per cent. last year. Mr. Meighen did not say that was not legitimate profit but if it were why was it urged that the farmers were not receiving enough, he asked. He read from the Grain Growers' Guide an assertion of the annual statement of the Grain Growers' Company that its profits were being cut away down by the competition of the millers. If such were the case what foundation was there for the statement of a combine between these millers and the buyers?

Besides the Solicitor-General seven other speakers said their say on the resolution.
Hon. Robert Rogers finished the address on the subject which he began last week. The Minister of Public Works pointed out that the British Corn Associations had complained to the United States Department of Agriculture that the grades of American wheat they were receiving were so inferior that their purchases were being confined to Canadian wheat. This was Canada's opportunity, said Mr. Rogers. Why throw it away by a letting down of the tariff bars which would mean that Canadian wheat, mixed with the American product, would lose its identity and its value in the British market.

Other speakers were Messrs. Cruise, of Dauphin; J. J. Hughes, of P. E. Islands; Levi Thompson, of Qu'Appelle, from the Liberal side of the House, and one Government member, Mr. W. F. MacLean, of South York, who supported the resolution; and Mr. Alex. Morrison, of Macdonald, and Mr. Hermenegilde Boulay, of Rimouski, who opposed it. Mr. Boulay used a new argument when he said the Western farmers were receiving better treatment from the Government now than those in Eastern Canada and that the time had come for them to cease their agitation and remember that they were not the only farmers in the country.

(From our own correspondent.)
OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—Major General Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, in the House to-day made a statement in regard to the assertion of Col. Jack Currie, of North Simcoe, yesterday afternoon that the Minister and General Alderson had stood between Col. Currie and promotion or mention for his good work in the battle of St. Julien. To-day's sitting of parliament was also made the occasion by Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works, to characterize as untrue a statement reported to have been made by Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Public Works in Saskatchewan, that Mr. Rogers had instigated the charges recently preferred against members of the Saskatchewan Government in connection with the liquor question.
General Hughes referred to the speech made in the House on Tuesday by Colonel Currie in which that officer spoke of non-recognition by way of honors for his gallant conduct in the battle of St. Julien and had referred to the Minister of Militia and General Alderson as the two men who stood between him and such promotion. General Hughes pointed out that as far as the command and administration of the forces at the front were concerned they were absolutely independent of either Canada or Great Britain and were directly under the Field-Marshal in command of the British forces. General Hughes then stated that as regards the rumors to which Col. Currie had himself referred, in connection with his conduct in the St. Julien fighting, two rumors had been current in Europe. One was that Col. Currie had been found during the fighting in the rear of the British division a considerable distance away from his regiment, if this were correct it would require explanation. It had been found, however, that Col. Currie on the occasion in question had been with his men, while on the other hand Brigadier-General Currie had been in the rear of the British division looking for reinforcements as was his duty to do.
Hon. Robert Rogers said he had been informed through the press that Hon. Mr. Calder, Minister of Public Works in Saskatchewan, had stated that Mr. Rogers was the instigator of the charges which had been preferred against the Government. If such a statement had been made Mr. Rogers wished to say it was untrue. He was further informed the statement had been made that Mr. Rogers had approached Mr. Calder a few months ago to arrange a withdrawal of the charges against existing ministers of the Manitoba Government. If Mr. Calder had made this statement, which the Minister very much doubted, he wished to say that it was also absolutely untrue.

(Special to the Guardian.)
OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—A Liberal amendment to the Budget bill talked off. As the debate is scheduled to conclude some time on Thursday there is little time for more than the formal submission of an amendment as a means of placing the opposition on record in support of the alternative tax which they have suggested, namely a tax on incomes. So far as can be learned the question of the introduction of such an amendment has not been settled definitely, but it is being considered. The debate today was marked by a number of unusually thoughtful speeches from both sides of the House, and although comparatively little really new matter was introduced with reference to the Budget itself, the question was approached from some new angles and, in the speech of Mr. Joseph Armstrong, of Eastmain on the operation of the duties on apples and oils was elucidated. The debate was resumed by Col. Currie.

COMFORTS FOR OUR SOLDIER BOYS

Come and Help Us Now!

Do you know what it is to Tramp the Live-long day through Slush and Snow without Rubbers? Do you know what it is to Trudge Ankle-Deep in Wet Snow and Ice cold Waters? Then you Realize what is in Store for Soldiers without Rubbers and will Hasten with your Contributions to the Rubber Boot Fund for our Soldiers Comfort.

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| One hundred and thirty-two pairs of rubber boots are now assured. But there are still 968 to be provided, and an urgent appeal is made to those who are delaying to send in their contributions now. Everyone should like to see the boys of the 105th rubber boot before the wet and slushy days arrive. Charlottetown has not the hospital accommodation for many soldiers suffering from colds and pleurisy to be an epidemic unless almost certain pneumonia, and there is almost certain pneumonia in time with rubber boots. Prevention is better than cure, and surely a few hundred dollars are ill-held in when the health of our brave soldiers is at stake. When the last short spell of wet weather was experienced, and a number of soldiers were down with colds and pleurisy, many kind-hearted and generous citizens were ready to put their hands in their pockets and provide an additional hospital for their care and attention—to save the boys. The proposal did them credit, but alas, with the return of hard, dry days and the cessation of the epidemic, the comfort of the soldiers has seemingly been forgotten. There will be a return soon of the wet, and if the soldiers' health is to be safeguarded, rubber boots are almost indispensable. | Mrs. W. H. Aitken, 4.00
McKinnon Drug Co., 2.00
Two Maces, 2.00
Andrew Mooney, 1.00
Sewell Robertson, 1.00
Mrs. Edith Peak, 1.00
Miss Haviland, 1.00
A. J. Dougan, 1.00
H. W. Longworth, 1.00
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Chas. H. Chandler, 1.00
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William Agnew, 1.00
A. W. Hyndman, 1.00
R. V. Mallett, 1.00
Mrs. R. H. Campbell, 1.00 |
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- Where so many get.
Lying down without complaint.
Dying from the wet.
Shivering, striving in the wet.
Simply done his soldier's part.
Through long months of wet.
Long endured with soldier's heart.
Dampness, fever, wet.
Noble, nameless, British heart.
Ice cold, in wet.
Please send your subscriptions to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. W. Hyndman, Royal Bank, Charlottetown.
- The following subscriptions have been received:
Capt. J. W. Dorsey, \$4.00
John Agnew, 10.00
W. K. Rogers, 5.00
A. Friend, 2.00
Artemas Lord, 4.00

BRITISH STEAMER WITH GERMAN PRIZE CREW

Put in to Santa Cruz with 206 Prisoners from Other Captured Ships.

(Special to the Guardian.)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—A despatch from Santa Cruz, Terra-Fire, says the British steamer Westburn has put in there for repairs, flying a German flag and with a prize crew of seven men and one officer. The officer is believed to belong to the German raider Moeve. In addition to her own crew there are 206 prisoners from various British steamers on the Westburn. The Westburn left Liverpool January 21 for Buenos Aires.

CANADIAN BATTALION OF FORESTERS

(Special to the Guardian.)
OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—Sir Sam Hughes is taking steps to organize a Battalion of Foresters in Canada. The War Office has asked that this be done and the Ministers have already advanced his plans for raising and officering the Battalion. Lumber of all kinds is required in Great Britain for war purposes and the prices are at now almost prohibitive figures, while the importation of new supplies from Canada is almost at a standstill through the rise in ocean freight. The timber resources of Great Britain are however, far from exhausted and these resources can be drawn upon with the aid of experienced men such as Canada can produce.
Lieut.-Col. Alexander McDougall of Ottawa will command the Battalion and the Majors will probably be Gerald White M.P. of Charlottetown and R. E. Hepburn of Prince Edward.

U.S. RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

Likely to be Severed Over Lusitania Dispute.

(Special to the Guardian.)
NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—A News Agency despatch from Washington published here this afternoon says the appearance of President Wilson before Congress in the next few days to announce his desire to break off diplomatic relations with Germany is forecasted this afternoon by high administration officials. This action is certain to follow, an official said, if intimations coming from German sources are correct. These intimations are to the effect that the German Foreign Office is sending instructions to Ambassador Bernstorff to play for further delay in the termination of the Lusitania dispute and for a long discussion of technicalities over the armed merchantmen decree scheduled to go into effect on March first.

ANNUAL MEETING DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Dairymen's Association was held in the Prince of Wales College yesterday. The President, Mr. J. A. Dewar, occupied the chair and conducted the proceedings of the first session which opened at 11 a.m. In the afternoon the reports of the President and Secretary were received and adopted, after which Mr. W. A. McKay, Dairy Superintendent of Nova Scotia, gave an inspiring talk on the Dairy work of Nova Scotia. In explaining the work of production he drew special attention to the general need of quality that was being felt and improved by the other provinces of the Dominion. He congratulated the universal efforts of the Association of P. E. Island in bringing improvement about in a co-operative way.
Mr. Morrow gave a report of the instruction work which gave rise to considerable discussion.
Other speakers were as follows: W. J. Reid and W. M. Lea, on cheap feeds for dairy cows; Prof. Ross, on Agricultural Dairy Production; Prof. Reek, on Community Organization.

GERMAN BOMBS IN RIGA DISTRICT

(Special to the Guardian.)
PETROGRAD, Feb. 23.—An official statement from general headquarters reads: German aeroplanes dropped bombs on the districts of Riga, Friedrichstadt and Jacobstadt. In the reports of Ikull the Germans maintained a violent fire. Two Zeppelins flew over Dvinsk. There was a lively reciprocal bombardment near Houkai, the Germans firing aerial torpedoes of large calibre. During the night the enemy violently bombarded our lines west of Lake Svencion as far as Lake Ilsen. On the Caucasus front our pursuit continues.

AUSTRIA PLAYS FALSE WITH MONTENEGRO

(Special to the Guardian.)
AMSTERDAM, Feb. 23.—A Budapest quotes the Desperter Lloyd as saying that the Austrian Government has decided to treat Montenegro as a conquered country instead of one which surrendered. King Nicholas persists in ignoring all inquiries addressed to him by the Austrian Government.

U.S. Government Intends to "Discipline" Von Bernstorff

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—A despatch to The Herald from Washington says: A high official of the State Department stated to-day that the administration felt it necessary to discipline Ambassador von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, for his improper propaganda views. When the Ambassador calls at the State Department he will be officially informed that the intrigues he is habitually promoting against the United States government, through the medium of publicity, must cease. Whether he will be allowed to retain his residence in Washington depends upon his future conduct. If he does not take to heart the admonitions of the administration, his recall will be demanded.

CANADIAN OFFICERS MCDONNELL AND LECKIE NOT SERIOUSLY WOUNDED

(Special to the Guardian.)
OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—Sir Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia, has received advice to the effect that the wounds sustained by Brigadier-General Macdonnell and Leckie, of the Canadian forces in fighting last week near Ypres were not of a serious character. General Leckie's wound was in the thigh and those of Macdonnell in the left arm and shoulder blade.

SWEDEN ASKS AID OF U.S. TO CURB BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The Swedish government, through the Swedish legation here, has asked the United States in an unusually vigorous note, to join with Sweden and other neutral powers to preserve the important rules of international law now being violated by Great Britain. On two occasions before Sweden, without success, asked the United States to co-operate for the general preservation of neutral rights. The note made public this week and its publication shows the earnestness of Sweden's contention—lays particular stress on the British blockade of neutral parcel post shipments that might have a tonic destination, and the British censorship of first-class mail expressly protected by treaty.

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

THE WEATHER yesterday was fine and clear with snow at night. The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 26 degrees above zero; at nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 9 above; at nine last night 19 above. The coldest the previous night was 5 above.
The tide will be high this afternoon at 1.47 and tomorrow at 2.14; it will be high tomorrow morning at 2.56 and Saturday at 3.54.
The sun sets this afternoon at 5.40 and tomorrow at 5.42; it rises tomorrow morning at 6.45 and Saturday at 6.44.
There was a full moon on Friday Feb. 18th, at 10.29 p. m.
The last quarter of the moon will be on Saturday, Feb. 26th, at 5.24 a. m.
The length of today will be ten hours and fifty-four minutes.

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.
- "IDEAL" SAUSAGES ALWAYS ON HAND at Holman's, Charlottetown.
- BOY WANTED—APPLY 188 QUEEN ST. 7282-2-10MT
- FOR SALE—1/2 SHARES IN THE Central Fox Co., Ltd., will be sold at a bargain. Reason of selling party going on overseas service. Apply Box 188 Charlottetown. 7282-2-10MT
- TO LET—A SMALL BEDROOM suitable for nurse or gentleman, in private family with all modern improvements including phone. Apply 84 Hillboro Street. 6341-1-7MT
- FOR SALE, A PROTECTOGRAPH check writer. This machine was never used and is something that every office should have. Should have been seen at any time, by applying at this office. 7203-2-8MT
- WANTED AT ONCE—TWENTY five bright young men for the signalling section of the 105th Overseas Battalion, C. E. F. Apply Lieut. Crockett at the Armouries to the Adjutant or the Recruiting Officers. 7493-2-24MT
- WANTED IMMEDIATELY MANAGER for crayfish (Cape Lobster) canning factory in South Africa. Must be thoroughly experienced in packing lobster. Labour supply available principally coloured; must understand making cans by machinery and be capable of turning out first-class product. Good salary and excellent opening for really live applicant who understands the business. Apply by letter only to Mr. Robert Lord, c/o Messrs Arkell & Douglas, New York. 7500-2-24MT
- Minar's Liniment Cures Distemper.