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FRENCH CAPTURE GERMAN TRENCHES

German Attempts at Verdun Becoming More Hopeless. Their Trenches were Stormed and Captured by French and Number of Prisoners Taken. Heavy Fighting on Other Fronts.

(Special to the Guardian.)
PARIS, April 16.—Saturday night's official communication says: West of the Meuse the enemy heavily attacked during the afternoon positions in Carrellet Wood and in the neighborhood of Esnes. East of the Meuse there was heavy artillery action on both sides in the sector Douraimont and south Handromont Road.

(Special to the Guardian.)
PARIS, April 16.—A French infantry attack in the region of Verdun, south of Douraimont yesterday, resulting in capture of portions of German trenches, a War Office statement on Sunday afternoon says. Bombardment was continued last night on the left bank of the Meuse in the sector between Avocourt and Cauretter Wood. On the right bank we delivered a spirited attack toward the end of yesterday against German positions south of Douaumont. This effort, which was completely successful, made it possible for us to occupy certain of the enemy's trenches and capture 200 men, of whom two were officers.

(Special to the Guardian.)
LONDON, April 16.—British official statement on the campaign in France and Belgium was issued Saturday

SPAIN HAS TAKEN INSTANT ACTION

MADRID, (via Paris), April 13.—“We are confronted with such an incomprehensibly absurd act that I am loath to believe it until a thorough inquiry has been made,” said Count Romanos, the Spanish Premier last night with regard to the torpedoing of the Spanish steamer Santandero in the Bay of Biscay, as a consequence of which four lives were lost.

VONDESENED 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.

SMART BOY WANTED for composing room. Apply Foreman Guardian Office 7917-3-21-Mt.

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WANTED GIRL FOR GENERAL housework. Apply 188 Queen St. 8276-4-15Mt.

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FOR SALE.—LOBSTERMEN'S ROPE and anchors, second-hand, for sale cheap. Apply Nowell, Peake's Wharf No. 2. 8256-4-15Mt.

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LOST ON SATURDAY, APRIL 15th, a lady's black handbag, between J. G. Jamieson's Drug Store and E. W. Taylor's. Finder please leave at Guardian. 8231

AUCTION.—FURNITURE, AT THE residence of Mrs. McPhail, No. 10 Brighton Road, on Wednesday, 19th April, commencing at 2 o'clock sharp. Parlor, dining-room, hall and bedroom furniture, R. Beairto, Auctioneer. 8234-4-17m31

TO LET.—A LARGE BEDROOM on main floor, in private family. All modern conveniences. Apply 84 Hillsboro Street, or Phone 2344. 8204-4-12mt

HAY, STRAW, OATS, BRAN, MIDDINGS, Oil Cake, Cotton Seed, Corn Meal, Molasses, Meal, Cracked Oats, Cracked Corn, Wheat, Oyster Shell, Grit, Charcoal, Mixed Scratch Feed, Labrador Herring, by the dozen also in 1/2 Barrels. Right goods at right prices. MacKie & Nelson, opposite Davis & Fraser. 7269-4-17-M31.

Minard's Liniment cures Diphtheria, Minard's Liniment cures Colds, etc.

PREMIER MATHIESON SCORES OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN TACTICS

The Disgraceful and Untruthful Statements Made by Opposition Leader and Supporters During Recent Campaign Mercilessly Exposed by Premier Mathieson in His Great Budget Speech. The Oyster, Hay and Oats Scandals Fully Threshed Out and Opposition Members Challenged to Substantiate any one of the Contentions on which they Secured Their Election. Proof Adduced that Liberal Misrepresentations Hindered Development of Oyster Business.

Premier Mathieson continuing his great Budget speech in the Legislature said:

THE OYSTER BUSINESS.

The other source of income that largely failed was the oyster business. The oyster revenue fell off \$3,314 from our estimate, and I am sorry to say that the shrinkage in that revenue was in no small degree owing to the action that was taken by members of the Opposition. You know, Mr. Speaker, that it is an easy matter for one to go around with a firebrand and do enormous damage. A child can do damage in one hour that it might take a generation of men to build up in property. In regard to the oyster business, I will deal with that more fully later on; but I will say that the shrinkage of our revenues had to do in no small degree with the unwise and unparliamentary action of a number of members on the other side of the House. During the contest there was not a meeting at which they were not present with their little story of misrepresentations about the oyster business. In districts where there was not an actual expenditure, little chapter learned; and they recited it at East Point just as they did at Miscouche; the same stories, the same inaccuracies, the same mischievous misrepresentations. The expenditure which we estimated a year ago was \$516,238. The actual expenditure that did not include the war expenditure—was \$567,852. The war expenditure was \$11,393; so that, omitting the war expenditure, the other expenditure was \$40,121 more than the estimates. Roads overrun by \$15,432, permanent works by \$3,614, bridges by \$66,204, telephone extension by \$1,408, Falconwood by \$1,638, elections by \$1,418, administration of justice by \$1,692, and agriculture by \$1,056.

Now, I am going to read to this House, Mr. Speaker, the carefully considered statement of the Provincial Engineer, a man whom we have all learned to trust. He says: “In regard to the large number of bridges requiring to be rebuilt or repaired, it must be said that on September 26th and 27th, the Province was swept by a violent rainstorm. The wind, blowing at first from the south-west with a velocity of 32 miles per hour as recorded at the Meteorological Office, veered to the north-west, blowing with even greater fury. At the same time, a tidal wave of extraordinary height covered the bridges spanning tidal waters, and where they were exposed to a long sweep from wind and sea the greatest damage was done. The effects were most disastrous on the North Shore. Darnley Bridge was almost completely ruined. The bridges at St. Peter's, Clermont, Indian River, Fullerton's Marsh and Stanley suffered very severely. The Pisiquid Bridge over the Hillsborough River was covered with completely off the walls, which then fell into the stream. In fact every bridge reached by the tide was damaged in some degree. A fair estimate of the cost of repairing the bridges damaged by this storm would exceed \$50,000.00. Happening as it did at a season of the year when the fall traffic was just beginning, immediate steps had to be taken to put them in sufficient repair to accommodate this traffic. Labour and material, scarce and expensive under the most favourable conditions increased in price with the force of demand. The Department was compelled to face an unforeseen expenditure far in excess of the year's estimate. Where temporary repairs could be made, these were done; but many of the smaller bridges had to be completely rebuilt, and in the case of Darnley Bridge it was necessary to rebuild 800 feet of the structure, which was done in a permanent manner. That alone would be sufficient to account, according to the Engineer's estimate, for the difference between the estimated expenditure and the expenditure that was actually called for by the conditions of the public works. But the honourable members know there was more than that. EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS. We know that in the early part of the season, particularly in Prince County, the rains descended and the floods came, and when they dried up

they began again, and there were parts in that county where work was done three times on the roads before it finally stayed,—where the road work was done in the early part of the season and destroyed, and done again and destroyed and done a gain. The approaches of some of the larger bridges suffered from the saturated condition of the country. When the Commissioner of Public Works comes to deal with this matter he can give us more details. The effect of the war upon the fox business, and the effect of various causes upon the oyster business dried up those sources of revenue, and the storms and floods and special conditions that arose, calling for greater expenditure, accounted for the increase; but even so, and allowing for it, all, if it were not for the war expenditure which no man could foresee, we would still have reduced our indebtedness in our four-year term by \$16,000. If we had left all the public services, the public schools, the public works, to continue to run down as they were doing when we came in, we would still have that to say, that we had stopped the deficit and changed the tide, however little it might be. But we have something to show to the credit of the killing of the deficit for what was done with the money in those four years. What have we? We have permanent works in these four years that represent \$201,000. We have agricultural buildings, procured out of the agricultural fund in part, and part out of the direct revenues of the province, that represent a value of \$24,000. So that in property we have today \$225,000 worth more than when we came into power. When our friends the Liberals were in power they also spent money on capital account, and they have a record showing that they have spent \$218,688; so that in our four years we have added more to the property of the province by \$7,000, than our predecessors in all their 20 years. Go to the North River Bridge and you will see a work that has cost \$16,844. The contract was let by us before we were in power, but they went out of office, and they bought several steel spans that went to construct that bridge, and we give them credit for it. But they did everything but pay for it. We did the paying as well as the building; and I must refer to the fact that it is one foot at the very least narrower than it should be. We have put down no such narrow bridges in our time, and while I am on that point, and lest I might forget it, let me say this, that we have bought our bridges at from 15 to 20 per cent. less than they were bought by our predecessors, even at higher markets, and we have put in no steel bridge of quality as inferior as the best of those put in before our time. Talk about letting work by day's work and calling for tenders! There was never a contract let for a steel bridge by us before we came into power in this province. They were taken on trust from the one set of manufacturers and at their own prices, and when we called for tenders we found competitors throughout the province of Quebec and from various points in Nova Scotia, and the result was, we got our bridges right down to rock bottom prices. We got our bridges wider, more modern in every respect, and of the same dimensions in all other respects,—and we got them vastly cheaper. Montague Bridge stands there too, a modern steel bridge, with approaches of concrete, as permanent as concrete and steel can make it, at a cost of \$14,248; Cardigan Bridge at over \$7,000, Fortune bridge \$6,900, and over forty other permanent bridges. Let me say of Cardigan bridge that I doubt that there is in the Maritime Provinces a bridge of such excellent construction and quality. It is not by any means as large as some of the other bridges, but it is made of concrete. It was made as a test. Tenders were called for all through Ontario and a firm of which a Charlottetown man, Mr. McKinnon, is one of the partners, tendered lowest on this concrete and steel structure and they put up a magnificent piece of work. We have some other things to show for that expenditure besides those bridges. There is the Cardigan ferry boat, a ferry

service that had been promised since my earliest recollection, and it was never carried out until now. There is the Tuberculosis Hospital at Falconwood. It is not large, but sufficient to accommodate 20 patients, and it was all done with material supplied by the Government and work done by the inmates. When we came into power this building in which we are now was heated by between thirty and forty stoves, so far as it was heated at all. It was lighted with gas that leaked at every joint. We had wooden floors that were in the last stages of dilapidation, and we had various other defects due to age and neglect. Go through this building now, and you will find it heated with modern plant and lighted with electricity. There are hardwood floors in all the rooms in special use, and I will say this, that I believe the improvements that have been made in this building are typical of the general improvements that have been made throughout this province in public work. A new Jail in Georgetown has been built. There was an ancient structure there that had stood for over seventy years. It has stood just about as long as it was going to stand, and grand juries invariably reported that the Georgetown jail was in a condition that required complete rebuilding. We took the matter up and made an addition to the Court house of stone and steel, and an expenditure that would not exceed the cost required to repair it. So much for public work. I am only naming a few of the most conspicuous of those public works. We built a wharf at St. Peter's Bay. We built a mud scow, and they are saving on there the means of digging mud and distributing it among farmers who were never able to take advantage of it before. That represents an expenditure of \$9,000 in one instance and \$6,000 in another, and everywhere you go in this province you can find permanent results for the money we have expended. Go up to the head of the town here and you will find a building in which the soldiers are quartered. That was bought by this Government through the monies advanced to the Agricultural Department in part and in part by this Government. But where the Dominion advanced money, the title was vested in this province. In former years, when the Dominion Government was getting the Experiment Farm, we paid a large part of the money, when we had to borrow it, and the Dominion took the farm. We changed the system somewhat; the Dominion paid the money and we took the building. The same thing could have been done, I have no doubt, by our predecessors, but they did not do it. In Summerside we have a magnificent agricultural building, and it was through the means of having this building constructed as it was adapted as it was to the service, that we were able to get recruiting first established in this province. As soon as opportunity arose the Government made an offer to the War Office, offering this building for the purpose of the war, and that offer was the basis upon which recruiting of soldiers in this province was proceeded with, and but for that the work could not have been carried on.

THE EDUCATION SYSTEM. Now, let us pass from the public works. The most important public service of all is the service rendered by our educational system. What did we do with that? We have spent in four years upon education in excess of what our predecessors spent in their term of office, \$145,489. Would it not have been worth while changing the Government of this province if nothing further were done than to redeem the educational system from the decay which it was perishing? Something further has been done also in helping teachers along. Out of the agricultural aids bonuses have been paid the teachers, amounting to \$2,737. Summer schools for teachers have been established representing an expenditure of \$12,000; short courses in agriculture representing an expenditure of \$5,711; long courses \$3,280; courses in household science \$2,240; women's institutes \$5,825; dis-

(Continued on page two.)

SIR SAM HUGHES ARRIVES IN OTTAWA

Is Given a Rousing Welcome by 1,500 People, the Band of the Governor-General's Footguards and a Number of Parliamentarians and Prominent Military Officers.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
OTTAWA, April 16.—Major-General Sir Sam Hughes reached Ottawa today. He will be in his place in the House to-morrow and will probably make a brief statement to-morrow or Tuesday. The Minister was greeted on his arrival at the Central Station by fifteen hundred people, including a large number of soldiers from battalions organizing in Ottawa. The crowd cheered him, the band of the Governor-General's Foot Guards played “Home Sweet Home,” and a knot of the Minister's friends gathered about the train to shake hands with Sir Sam. Sir Sam's arrival was delayed by an accident. The New York train with the Minister's private car attached, was held at Maxville through a breakdown, and did not arrive in Ottawa till two hours after the scheduled time. A large crowd which had gathered at the station at noon, went away, but returned again and was there when the train pulled in. Among the parliamentarians who went to the station to meet Sir Sam were the Hon. Robt. Rogers, Major Stewart of Lunenburg, Col. Tremaine, J. A. Seasmith, Wm. Gray, Frank Glass, Tom Wallace and W. H. Bennett. From the headquarters staff there were Colonel Helmore, General Henry Smith, Colonel Macdonald and Mr. J. W. Borden, Paymaster-General. Colonel David Carnegie of the Shell Committee was also present. The Minister of Militia was accompanied from New York by two of the counsel retained by him in connection with the Royal Commission, Mr. Eugene Lafleur, K.C., of Montreal, and John S. Fwari, K.C., of Ottawa. Hon. Wallace Nesbitt, who met Sir Sam at New York, did not come on to Ottawa. As General Hughes stepped from the train he was met by his military secretary, Col. C. F. Winter, and then by Hon. Robert Rogers, whom he greeted with a “Hello, Bob, I'm glad to see you.” After shaking hands with the rest of the welcoming party and bowing his acknowledgements for the cheer which he received he left the station. He was in muff. This afternoon Sir Sam was in conference with the Prime Minister, when he repeated the statement called by him from England, and added a detailed explanation of the placing of the fuse contracts in so far as he was acquainted with the transactions. He had no statement to-night for publication. The Royal Commission which has been appointed to investigate the Kyoto charges, will begin its inquiry here immediately after Easter. Sir William Meredith is expected to be here on Wednesday when he will meet Hon. Lyman Duff, and will make the necessary preparations for beginning the investigation.

ISLANDER IN CASUALTY LIST

Matthew A. Allan, Charlottetown. Ottawa, Ont., April 13.—Sincerely regret to inform you 80138 Private George Francis Allan, infantry, officially reported admitted to No. 3 General Hospital, Boulogne, April 7th, gunshot wound, scalp, slight. Will send further particulars when received. Adjutant General. Private Allan joined the 31st Battalion of Calgary, where he held a position in the Bank of Commerce. He proceeded overseas with his regiment about a year ago and before the fight in which he was wounded had been behind the firing line attending a class of N.C.O.'s. He is a son of Major M. A. Allan, of 81 Fitzroy Street.

Floods Hamper The Operations in Mesopotamia

LONDON, April 13.—Lieut. General Sir Percy Lake, commanding the British forces in Mesopotamia, reports that the British attack on the Turkish position at Sarraiyat on the Tigris River, just below Kut El Amara, failed to break through the Turkish line.

The Mesopotamia statement, given on this evening, by the official press bureau says: “No attack on Sarraiyat was made on April 6, as reported in the Turkish communication of April 10. “Sir Percy Lake reports that an attack made at dawn on the 6th failed to get through the enemy's lines. The operations were much hampered by floods, which are extending.”

THE WEATHER TEMPERATURE, TIDE MOON ETC.

TORONTO, April 17.—Maritime: Moderate winds, fair and milder. THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was fair and cool with high winds. The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 38 degrees above zero. At nine o'clock yesterday morning it registered 37 above; at nine last night 30 above. The coldest the previous night was 30 above. The tide will be high this evening at 9:53 and to-morrow at 10:27; it will be high to-night at 10:37 and to-morrow at 11:27. The sun sets this evening at 6:51 and to-morrow at 6:52; it rises to-morrow morning at 5:08 and Wednesday at 5:06. The moon rises this evening at 6:46. The first quarter of the moon was on Monday, April 10th at 10 a.m. There will be a full moon on Tuesday, April 18th, at 1:07 a.m. The length of to-day will be thirteen hours and forty-one minutes.

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