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PREMIER ARSENAULT RETURNS FROM OTTAWA

Attended a Number of Conferences and Gives an Interesting Account of Matters of Special Interest to Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Premier Arsenault returned yesterday from Ottawa, where he attended a number of conferences to consider matters in connection with the war. One of the conferences presided over by Sir James Loughheed, President of the Military Hospitals Commission, was attended by representatives from the provinces. It was a reference to the care of returned insane soldiers and arrangements were arrived at by which each province has undertaken to care for its own returned insane soldiers. The Hospitals Commission undertakes to recoup the provinces for the expense of this maintenance. It is pleasing to note in this connection that P. E. Island is the only province in Canada to which, so far, no soldiers have returned in this condition which speaks well for the healthy young manhood of this Island.

Another conference presided over by the new Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Mr. Crerar discussed the provision of agricultural labor. This shortage is especially acute in Ontario and the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The conference sat two days including an evening session and drew up a number of recommendations, which are to be dealt with by the Federal Government. Until action is taken upon them it is not considered desirable to make them public.

Hon. Mr. Arsenault interviewed different departments on matters of interest to the province and negotiations have been initiated with a view to giving this province direct telephone communication with New Brunswick. This will afford the Island telephonic connection with the other provinces and the United States.

He also interviewed the Minister of Railways and Mr. Hayes, General Manager for the eastern division, who happened to be in Ottawa at the time, with reference to transportation matters. As has already been noted in the press application has been made for a large appropriation for the improvement of government railways and railway services—a generous share of which will be appropriated towards improvement of the P. E. Island system, including new engines, ballasting and new cars.

The strenuous work done by the railways not only in Canada but in the United States in connection with the war has had its effect on all railway systems. Prince Edward Island is not the only place that has suffered during the present winter. There is practically not a single railway in Canada or the United States that has been able to run on schedule time. On the trip to Ottawa the Ocean Limited was fifteen hours late on arrival in Montreal and the C. P. R. was an hour and a half late on the trip from Montreal to Ottawa. The express trains between Montreal and Toronto and Ottawa and Toronto are from two to three hours late every day, and during the stormy weather all the train services were absolutely demoralized. Wrecks on different railways have been quite frequent during the winter, and every traveller one meets from the United States has the same story of delay and difficulty. One gentleman from this province who has been travelling in the United States for the past three weeks told Mr. Arsenault the only train on which he travelled that was on time was the one that came from Sackville to Tormentine on the much abused N. B. & P. E. I. Railway. While in a large town in the United States he made enquiries as to when a train would leave for Washington. He was told the only way he could make sure was to go to the station and wait until a train came going in that direction. Another traveller arriving from Boston had the same tale of woe. He had been trying to expedite a shipment of potatoes and found every railway terminal so piled up with accumulated freight that the railway hands had the greatest difficulty in doing any shunting. It is true the people of this province have had to put up with some difficulties which might probably have been avoided but on the whole the experience here has not been that of other places. In New Brunswick an important branch railway is closed on account of snow accumulation, and will probably not open until spring. The same is true of branch railways in other provinces. It is considered too early these hard times to keep them open.

There is a serious shortage of coal in the upper provinces, and it is being doled out by daily allowances. A few days ago Mr. Crothers, Minister of Labor, telephoned for a load of coal. In reply he was told 250 pounds was the allowance, and he had to take his turn like others. If the shortage continues it may be that some of the less essential industries may have to close down as in the United States.

With reference to the potato situation in this province it is highly desirable that those who have a surplus on hand should endeavor to get clear of them as soon as possible. There is still a surplus of over 50,000,000 bushels in the United States and a surplus of eight and a half millions in Canada, Quebec being the only province in Canada where there is a shortage. The Food Controller's Department has a representative in this province who is anxious to assist the farmers and shippers in any place where the buyers will not take the risk. The Food Controller's Agent in this province is willing to appoint a representative who will receive po-

lates on his behalf and the Department will ship them and sell them to their brokers paying the proceeds to the sellers.

Enquiries made in Ottawa by Mr. Arsenault indicate that in all likelihood three if not the four Unkist candidates in this province will be elected by the soldiers' vote. While in Ottawa Mr. Arsenault met Hon. J. D. McLean, M.D., of the British Columbia government. Dr. McLean is a P. E. Islander, having been born in Belfast. He removed to British Columbia twenty years ago and although his near relatives have all left the province he still holds the homestead in Belfast. He is an enthusiastic Islander and promises himself a visit to his native province at an early date.

Mr. Arsenault before returning paid a short visit to Toronto, where he was kindly received by Sir William Hearst and Hon. Mr. McPherson, Provincial Secretary, whom he had previously met in Ottawa. There are two large aviation camps at Toronto, where a large number of aviators, including some Island men, are in training.

Before leaving Ottawa, Mr. Arsenault was a guest at a luncheon given by Sir R. L. Borden in honor of Sir Frederick Smith, Attorney General for Great Britain. Among those present were Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, lately British Ambassador at Washington, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and a number of the Cabinet Ministers. Sir Frederick Smith has addressed a large number of meetings throughout the United States and spoke feelingly of the splendid sentiment that exists there towards the cause of the Allies. He dwelt on the great moral effect caused in Great Britain by the war activities of this Dominion and said that a very warm feeling existed in Great Britain and France which was bound to knit closer together these great countries and the Dominion.

The Cabinet Ministers in Ottawa are working well together. It must not be imagined that their is any cure at present. They are all extremely busy men, working twelve and fifteen hours a day and even longer. Party politics is absolutely tabooed and the sole aim of all is how best and how quickest to win the war. There exists a serious shortage of foodstuffs and a great campaign is about to be inaugurated for greater production in 1918 and 1919. There is especially a shortage in wheat and wheat products and pork, and it will not be surprising if an order is made at an early date forbidding the use of white flour. The fact that high prices are not obtainable this year should not discourage the potato growers. The surplus existing this year is, not likely to exist next year. Any surplus on hand can be profitably used in hog feeding as high prices are assured for this product for some years to come.

GERMAN THREAT TO BREAK WITH RUSSIA

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 23.—The Lokale Anzeiger of Berlin says that unless Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, accepts the demands of the Central Powers when he returns to Brest-Litovsk on January 29 the Central Powers will break off peace negotiations.

SLACKER TOOK A FIT

SHERBROOKE, Que., Jan. 25.—When the exemption was refused J. E. Richard, Cookcook, by the appeal court judges today, he fell to the floor in a fit. He was unconscious for two hours.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diptemper

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

TODAY IS THE 1273rd DAY OF CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR.

TORONTO, Jan. 26.—Strong south-west winds, snow.

The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 16 degrees above. At 10 a. m. it was 16 above; at 9 p. m. it was 3 above. The lowest the previous night was zero.

The tide will be high this morning at 11.06, tomorrow at 11.42 and Monday at 12.13; it will be high tonight at 9.57, tomorrow at 10.47 and Monday at 11.85.

The sun sets this afternoon at 5.20, tomorrow at 5.21 and Monday at 5.23; it rises tomorrow morning at 7.41, Sunday at 7.40 and Monday at 7.39.

The first quarter of the moon was on Saturday, January 19th, at 9.38 a. m.

The moon will be full on Saturday, January 26th, at 10.14 p. m.

The length of today will be nine hours and thirty nine minutes and of tomorrow nine hours and forty one minutes.

Minard's Liniment Cures Neuralgia.

CONCERTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

*Concert and basket social in Corn Ban Hall Tuesday, February 5th. Proceeds in aid of Church. Admission 15 and 20 cents. Ladies with baskets free. 2293-1-23M3pd.

ELABORATE SYSTEM OF GERMAN BLACKMAIL

Wealthy German Tells How Germans Have Been Blackmailed by Kaiser. Syndicate Formed to Exploit Lands in Australia, India and Canada Possession of Which Would be Secured by the War.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—German business men have been blackmailed by Emperor William from the days immediately preceding the war until the present, according to an article written by August Thyssen, one of the wealthiest members of Germany's business community, and a leader of the Republican movement. The article was first published in pamphlet form, but it was suppressed and the author fined.

"I am writing this pamphlet," the writer says, "because I want to open the eyes of Germans, especially of the business community, to facts which the Hohenzollerns wanted to get the support of the commercial class for their war plans they put their ideas before us as a business proposition. A large number of business and commercial men were asked to support the Hohenzollern war policy on the ground that it would pay them to do so. Let me frankly confess that I am one of these men who was led to agree."

War Had Become a Necessity in 1912

"In 1912 the Hohenzollerns said the war had become a necessity to the preservation of the military system upon which their power depends in that year. The Hohenzollerns might have directed, if they had desired, the foreign affairs of our country so that peace would have been insured in Europe for at least fifty years."

Syndicate Formed to Exploit Canada

"I was personally promised a free grant of 30,000 acres in Australia and a loan from the Deutsche Bank of 750,000 at 3 per cent. to enable me to develop my business in Australia. To several other firms were promised special trading facilities in India, which was to be conquered by Germany. It was noted at the end of 1915. A syndicate was formed for the exploitation of Canada. This syndicate consisted of the heads of twelve great firms; the working capital was fixed at \$100,000,000, half of which was to be found by the German Government."

"These promises were not vaguely given, they were made definitely by Bethmann-Hollweg on behalf of the Emperor to gatherings of business men and in many cases to individuals. I have mentioned the promise of a grant of 30,000 acres in Australia that was made to me. Promises of a similar kind were made to at least eighty other persons at special interviews with the chancellor and participants of these promises were entered in a book at the trades department. "But not only were these promises made by the chancellor, they were

confirmed by the Emperor who on three occasions addressed large private gatherings of business men in Berlin, Munich and Cassel in 1912 and 1913. I was at one of these gatherings. The Emperor's speech was one of the most flowery orations I have heard.

"The Emperor was particularly enthusiastic over the coming German conquest of India. India," he said, "is coveted by the British. It is in my view governed by them. We shall not merely occupy India, we shall conquer it, and the vast revenues that the British allow to be taken by Indian Princes will after our conquest flow in a golden stream into the Fatherland. In all the richest lands of the earth the German flag will fly over every other flag."

"But this is what has happened in reality. In December of 1916 the chancellor, Bethmann-Hollweg, began to have interviews once more with business men. I was personally asked to guarantee a description of 300,000. I declined to give this; so did some others. I was then favored with a private interview with Bethmann-Hollweg's private secretary, who told me that if I declined to give the guarantee I would lose a contract I had with the war office. He described this demand as blackmail of the worst sort, and refused to guarantee a mark to the war loan. Two months later I lost my contract and the greater part of my business has been taken over at a figure that means confiscation. Moreover, I am not to get paid until the war is over. The purchase price of the foreign trade department sent out a circular last March which said: 'It will be wise for employers who have foreign interests to employ agents in foreign countries who can be thoroughly off as being of French or English birth. German agents and travellers will probably for some time after the war have difficulty in doing business, not only in enemy countries, but in neutral countries.'"

"So this is the prospect we are faced with after the war. The meaning of this circular in plain language is this: 'So loathed and hated have Germans become outside their own country that no one will want to have any personal dealings with them after the war.'"

"Can any German to whom such prospects are held out by the Emperor fail to see that he has been bamboozled and humbugged and fooled into supporting a war from which the utmost he can hope to gain is to come out of it without national bankruptcy?"

F. W. HYNDMAN ADVOCATES AN ISLAND AVIATION CO.

At the Annual Meeting of the Queens County Branch of the Aerial League of the British Empire. Forty Men Have Joined Aerial Service.

The annual meeting of the Queen's County Branch of the Aerial League of the British Empire was held in the Board of Trade Rooms Thursday afternoon with President F. W. Hyndman in the chair.

The treasurer's report submitted by Mr. G. W. Harrison, showed a small balance to the credit of the League in the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The president Mr. F. W. Hyndman then read the report prefacing it with a regret that more members were not present at the meeting. He thought that P. E. Islanders, owing to the isolated position of the province should be more interested in aviation as the one outstanding means of securing continuous communication between the province and the mainland.

PRESIDENT HYNDMAN'S REPORT

On the 12th March, 1917 at the request of the Montreal Branch of the Canadian Division of the Aerial League of the British Empire, this Queen's County Branch was inaugurated by calling a Public Meeting for the purpose, in the Legislative Library at Charlottetown. About forty gentlemen attended, and the following officials were elected:

Mr. F. W. Hyndman, President.
Hon. Chas. Dalton, Vice-President
Executive Committee.—Hon. A. A. McLean, M.P.; D. B. Stewart, A. E. Morrison, R. H. Jenkins, C. H. B. Longworth, Esquires.
Treasurer, G. W. Morrison, Esq.
Mgr. Canadian Bank of Commerce at Charlottetown.
Secretary.—Mr. O. C. Craswell.
By-Laws Committee.—Messrs. F.

BURNS CONCERT DELIGHTS AUDIENCE

The attendance at the second presentation of the Burns concert last night, was even greater than the previous night and the rendition of the programme was equally enjoyable. Quite a number of out-of-town music lovers were present and the several artists added new laurels to their already well-decked crowns by the splendid performance and the enthusiastic reception with which each number was received. Mr. Earle securing nine encores and the other artists being equally appreciated.

Master Raymond MacNeill, son of Mr. Malcolm MacNeill of Long Creek, was one of the star performers at both enter-ainments. This young lad, only seven years old, simply a marvel. He is a handsome and manly little chap and the rhythmic manner in which he negotiated the swords at once captivated the audience. He was cheered again and again.

The programme was practically the same as on the previous night.

FOUR STEAMSHIPS LOST IN THE MISSISSIPPI.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 23.—Ice floes sweeping southward on the crest of a rapid rise in the Mississippi River, due to the breaking of gorges in that waterway and tributary streams today, caused four steamboats to sink, tore others from their mooring and damaged a number of small craft. There was no loss of life.

Mainland do not realize what the importance of continuous connection with the Mainland really means to residents of this Island; and if let in control of Mainland people we shall suffer still, as we were dependent upon steam communication. Shortly after this Branch of the League was established, the Imperial Royal Flying Corps requested our Committee to undertake the recruiting and examination of Cadets in the lower provinces for their establishment at Toronto. This work which requires a great deal of time and labor has been carried on by the President, and our Medical Examiner, Dr. S. I. Jenkins, and since commencing that work they have examined and forwarded to the Royal Flying Corps as many as forty applicants for employment in Headquarters, Toronto. There seems to be an impression abroad that the President and Medical Examiner are paid for their services to the Royal Flying Corps, so it may as well be stated now, that the services of these gentlemen are given gratuitously for patriotic purposes, as Aviation is now, and will in the future, have much to do with the ending of this terrible war. I must here state the during the past year, Hon. A. A. McLean who was elected one of the executive committee of this Branch having accepted an appointment as a member of the Governor General's staff, necessitates his residing in that city. He submitted his resignation which was accepted, and the committee elected in his place, Frank R. Hertz, Esq., of Charlottetown. The Constitution requires that the committee and officers of the League Branch shall be elected at its annual meetings. Vacancies during the year the committee has power to fill.

Only members who have paid their initiation fees, have the privilege of voting or speaking at the meeting of the Branch. The membership fee is one dollar (\$1.00) per year.

I desire to remind the members of this Branch that it was established for the purpose of encouraging and assisting the "Science of Aviation". To my mind the best way of doing this is to have a branch of the organization of "Prince Edward Island Aviation Company" with a capital of say fifty or one hundred thousand dollars in shares of fifty dollars each, and as all P. E. Islanders are interested in such an undertaking, every family in the province should become shareholders and own one or more shares. The recent large investment in Victory Bonds assures us that there would be no difficulty in securing the necessary capital for an enterprise of such great importance to our province. The Aerial League takes no stock in enterprises, but uses its influence in advocating and promoting Aviation throughout the world over. It is suggested that a Stock List be opened and placed in the hands of the Treasurer, with authority to give receipts for any subscriptions received, depositing the same in the Canadian Bank of Commerce, so that in the event of Peace being happily declared, this Island could take advantage of the many Aeroplanes thrown on the public, being no longer required for war purposes. If such a company is formed, I wish to say that a Dominion Act of incorporation will be required as the territory of other provinces will be used, as well as that of this province.

Mr. C. H. B. Longworth in moving the adoption of the President's excellent report declared that it was highly creditable alike to the Province and to Mr. Hyndman that such a large number as forty men should have been passed through his hands for this most important branch of Empire service. He paid a tribute to Mr. Hyndman's indefatigable efforts in this work, and especially his endeavors to have P. E. Island's winter navigation problem solved by means of aerial transit.

Mr. D. B. Stewart seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

OFFICERS ELECTED

On motion of Mr. F. R. Hertz seconded by Mr. C. H. B. Longworth, Mr. F. W. Hyndman was re-appointed President for the ensuing year.

On motion of Mr. Hertz seconded by Mr. J. O. Hyndman, Hon. Chas. Dalton was re-elected Vice-President. The other members of the executive were also re-elected en bloc.

Minard's Liniment Cures Rheumatism

GREATER ACTIVITY ON WESTERN FRONT

Belligerents on Both Sides Apparently Engaged in Trying-Out Processes Preparatory to Larger Operations Made Possible by Milder Weather.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—With the report of amelioration in the political unrest in Austria-Hungary and a continuation of silence as regards the internal situation in Germany, the notable feature in the world war is the apparent resumption, and somewhat larger scale, of the military operations on the western front in France and Belgium.

Although for the moment these operations, viewed from the cold facts as announced by the various war offices, do not transcend in importance the usual small operations by raiding and reconnoitering parties which have been in progress since the severe winter weather began, nothing between the lines of the communication, it is not difficult to see that the manoeuvres now in progress on various sectors are in the nature of trying-out processes of a marked character.

Are Getting Ready

From the North Sea to the Swiss frontier, the lessening in the rigors of winter has permitted the belligerents again to send forth their men in enterprises which seemingly forecast the intention shortly to resume fighting activity more extensively.

For weeks the big guns along the entire battlefield have been roaring in extensive duels on numerous sec-

tors, but the infantry has lain idle owing to the deep snows and later to the morasses which formed as a result of the thaw.

On their extreme right in northern Belgium the Germans have carried out an "important" raid and gained a footing in French advanced trenches east of Neupont, while along nearly all of the front in Flanders the artillery have increased the volume of their fire.

Fighting Around Lens

To the south, around Lens, Arras and St. Quentin, the fighting, although still by comparatively small forces, daily is growing in strength, while eastward along the Chemin Des Dames, past Verdun and thence to the Swiss border the French and Germans are continuously engaged on various sectors in artillery fighting and infantry activities considerably above the normal, as compared with the earlier days of the war.

On the front in Italy the change in the high command evidently has not resulted as yet in any betterment of strategic position of the Austro-German armies. From the Asiago Plateau eastward to the Piave river and thence southward to the Adriatic Sea the Italians again have been victorious at numerous points.

FURTHER DETAILS OF NAVAL ENGAGEMENT

In Which Breslau and Goeben Were Put Out of Action.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The British destroyer Lizard was about two miles from the northernly point of the Tigris and Lizard, which had been following the Goeben, and in view of the activity of the British naval aircraft, the two destroyers retired out of range and proceeded to rescue the survivors of the Breslau. During these operations the periscope of a submarine was sighted and the work of rescue was interfered with seriously while the destroyers hunted the submarine.

The destroyer Tigris now joined the Lizard and the two destroyers endeavored to cover the monitors by forming a smoke screen, in attempting which they were subjected to an accurate fire from the Goeben. Meanwhile the British monitor Bredon had been hit heavily and sunk. The British monitor M-28, which was on fire and was sunk by a close touch as possible with the enemy ships. The Goeben and Breslau engaged the Lizard at about 11,000 yards, shooting over her without hitting.

The Goeben sighted British monitors in Kusu Bay on the west coast of the Bosphorus, and engaged them, the British continuing to fight the Lizard, which was prevented from closing to torpedo range because of the accuracy of the enemy's fire at the shorter range.

Observing trawlers coming to the assistance of the monitors, the Tigris and Lizard followed the enemy. At 7 a. m. when the Breslau was about six miles south of Cephalo, a large explosion was observed aboard her after funnel. Two or three minutes later three more explosions took place, and in a minute past seven she sank by the stern, keeling over as she went down.

On seeing the Breslau sink, the Goeben turned and circled round her and then continued on a southerly course. Immediately after this four enemy destroyers were sighted, coming out of the Dardanelles, supporting an old Turkish cruiser, the Tigris and Lizard at once engaged the enemy destroyers, which hurriedly retired up the straits, the nearest one being hit repeatedly and set on fire.

The Goeben continued a southerly course until an attack by British aircraft forced her to alter her course and head for the Dardanelles. In the act of turning, she struck a mine which caused her to settle down aft with a list of ten to fifteen degrees, which considerably reduced her speed. She proceeded slowly up the Dardanelles, escorted by enemy seaplanes and the four Turkish destroyers which had returned to her assistance.

The Goeben was now in such a condition that she was steered for the shore and beached at the extreme end of the Nagara Point, 100 yards from the lighthouse. Soon after she was beached two more direct hits were made on her by the airmen, who were engaged heavily by several enemy seaplanes. In the encounters which took place one of the British seaplanes failed to return.

CONDENSED SPECIALS

BRIGHT BOY IS WANTED AT Guardian Office. 1841-12-22Mtr

JOHN A. MACDONALD, LARD SURVEYOR, HERMANVILLE, 2357-1-25E16pd

WANTED—TO PURCHASE, SECOND-HAND TYPEWRITER. Apply Guardian Office. 2289-1-23Mtr

WANTED A MAID FOR GENERAL HOUSEWORK. Apply 55 Hillsboro St. 2340-1-25M6t

FOR SALE ONE COW NEWLY CALVED, AYSHIRE GRADE. Apply J. E. Trainor, Bedford. 2344-1-25M4pd

TO LET A MODERN SEVEN ROOM HOUSE at Brighton immediate possession, Ring 240. 2341-1-25M6t

WANTED TO RENT HOUSE WITH modern conveniences, on or before first of March. Apply at this office. 2300-1-23Mtr

FOR SALE A NEWLY CALVED cow, or will exchange for dry cow, apply to Herbert Mason, Bunbury. 2340-1-25M3pd

WANTED A GIRL FOR GENERAL HOUSEWORK. Apply Mrs. P. C. Brown, 196 Richmond St. Df. 2152-1-14Mdf

FOR SALE—10 H. P. IMPERIAL Marine engine, first class condition ready to install. A bargain. Apply at Henderson & Cudmore, 101 Griffin St. 2361-1-25M2t

NO ONE DOES THE COUNTING when you've installed a Remington Wahl Typewriter. The Machine does it as it writes the figures with wonderful mechanical automatic accuracy. A. Milne Fraser, Halifax, N.S. 2361.

FOUND ABOUT SIX WEEKS AGO, at C. E. Pratt's St. Peter's a hand bag, containing a sum of money. Owner can have same by describing contents, and paying for ad. 2347-1-25M2t

WANTED A RELIABLE GIRL WITH character references for home of traveller's family near St. John Easy position good wages. No washing, fare paid. Apply Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon, Mr. Stewart, Russ Hotel. 2342-1-25M2t

Minard's Liniment Cures Dipthiria.