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## GERMAN MAILED FIST FALLS ON STRIKERS

### Order Reducing Rations to Strikers Now in Effect. Citizens Forbidden to Assemble or Join Street Crowds Under Threat of Being Shot. The Strike Continues and is General.

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—The German machine is trying to subdue the strike and the military mailed fist is being applied to keep the strikers under control. The order reducing the rations of strikers is in effect today and means hunger to thousands. Citizens are forbidden to assemble in public meetings or join street crowds, under threat of being shot. The Reichstag is nervous of the Socialists. There is a rigid censorship by the German Government on strike news but information from various sources shows that the strike is general despite the strong stand by the military authorities now in control.

### AUSTRIAN MUNITION DEPOT BLOWN UP, MANY KILLED.

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—The explosion of a munition depot near Prague, the Capital of Bohemia, a province in Austria, involving the loss of many lives, is reported in despatches from that city to Zurich, as forwarded by the Exchange Company. According to some accounts, the depot was blown up intentionally.

## GLAD TO BE BACK IN P. E. ISLAND

Dr. Leo Frank, who arrived Saturday night from a trip to Chicago tells the Guardian that he is glad to be back in God's country once more. He had not realized, until he crossed the border southward what war conditions actually meant. The shadow of the war is on everything in the United States, on its railways, its hotels, its theatres, its amusements. The coal famine is the most serious in the history of the Republic and has affected, every line of activity, almost paralyzing business. The heatless days, meatless days, wheatless days, take up the whole seven days of the week so that no day is without its privations of some kind. The shortage of fuel has closed many of the schools, churches and cut off some days in the stock exchange and shortened the hours in commercial circles generally. The people are taking their privations cheerfully; in many of the hotel corridors, restaurants, and places of amusement women are daily to be seen generally in groups, knitting socks, mitts and sweaters for the soldiers. A sight that impressed Dr. Frank very much was the fraternizing of soldiers of the different allied nationalities; Highlanders in their airy costumes, Canadians, Americans, French, Belgians, Italians—all in their respective uniforms—could be seen walking together, attending theatres, or leaning together on the walls, among them their war experiences for the benefit and information of those on their way to war. The patriotic feeling is strong in the United States and they are not slow to express it. In a German restaurant, one of the best known in the United States, which he visited, Dr. Frank noted the various signs placarded on the walls, among them: "Think what you like, but don't express it"; "Do not discuss the war situation"; (by order of the U. S. War Department, and many similar ones. At this restaurant when the orchestra struck up: "The Star Spangled Banner," everybody, Germans and all, stood at attention. He estimated that seventy-five per cent of those present were Germans and inferred that the reason why they so obediently stood up was that they were afraid they would get their "blocks" knocked off if they didn't.

## ITALIANS DOWN FOURTEEN ENEMY PLANES

(Special to the Guardian.)  
ROME, Feb. 4.—The Italians downed fourteen enemy planes and a captive balloon on the Italian front. There is heavy fighting by artillery along the lower Piave river.

## BRITISH STEAMER WAS TORPEDOED

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—The British armed boarding steamer Louvain, Lieutenant Commander M. G. Eastman, commanding, was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine in the Eastern Mediterranean on Jan. 21. Seven officers and 217 men were lost.

## MUTINY IN GREEK ARMY

(Special to the Guardian.)  
ATHENS, Feb. 4.—A mutiny which involved a large proportion of the Greek army infantry regiments stationed at Lamia, about ninety miles northwest of Athens, and a few artillery men in the town occurred last Friday evening. It was promptly suppressed.

## Oldest Native of Charlottetown Dies Aged 92

Citizens were surprised and grieved yesterday morning to hear of the death Sunday morning of Mr. William D. Tanton, at the advanced age of 92 years.

## WHAT THE ASSOCIATION HAS DONE.

The chief reason for creating the Canadian Railway Association for National Defence was the necessity for conserving fuel during the winter months. The desirability of embodying in concrete form the co-operative spirit which up to this time has been casual and informal among the Canadian railways, was secondary.

## 100 POUNDS PER MILE!

The Canadian reduction means a saving of approximately 100 pounds of coal per mile, or on 12,000,000 miles—600,000 tons per annum. Further reductions are under way.

## CONDENSED SPECIALS

BOY WANTED TO DO ERRANDS and work around office. Apply Guardian Office. 2482-2-2Mtf

WANTED TO PURCHASE, SECOND-HAND typewriter. Apply Guardian Office. 2289-1-28Mtf

FARADOR MACHINE TO LET BY week or month. Apply to 224 Eustice street. 609-10-12Mtf

HEAVY BROWN PAPER FOR sale, excellent for putting under oilcloth or carpets. Apply at The Guardian Office. 758-10-20Mtf

WANTED TO RENT HOUSE with modern conveniences, on or before first of March. Apply at this office. 2300-1-28Mtf

WANTED TO PURCHASE, SECOND-HAND hand fire or a ranch of from four to twenty pens. Apply to "A", care of Guardian. 2487-1-19Mtf

## FREEDOM OF SEAS AGAIN DISCUSSED

### Von Hertling's Interpretation of President Wilson's Reference to Freedom of Sea Arouses Lively Controversy.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—President Wilson's reference to freedom of the seas, which drew from Chancellor Von Hertling the suggestion that British naval bases such as Gibraltar, Malta and others be "renounced," a lively controversy. The German Chancellor undoubtedly hoped to put Britain on the defensive, and probably had little expectation of his suggestion ever being carried out. Two interesting comments on this question appear in today's press. The Manchester Guardian says: "By freedom of navigation President Wilson may have meant nothing more than abolition of the right to capture the property of private subjects on the high seas, as well, of course, as the practice which is not of our right, of sinking ships with their crews and cargoes at sight, or he may have meant also to restrict the right of commercial blockade of enemy countries."

"On these subjects we should advise Englishmen for the present to keep an open mind. We, too, are blockaded, illegally it is true, and also ineffectually, but still not without inconvenience, which later may become suffering. We do not know how a commercial blockade will work out in practical advantage, and until the accounts are made up we should do well not to commit ourselves against the views which are held by our great ally, America."

"But whatever the President may have meant he certainly did not mean to abolish the right of blockading the enemy's fleets so as to make it easier for a great naval power to capture its naval bases, from which to conduct a submarine campaign or to depress the advantages of a naval, as distinguished from a military power. America has as little to gain by such changes as we have."

The Morning Post takes a much stronger line when it says: "Germany is the foulest pirate that ever disgraced the seas. The German demand for freedom of the seas is the demand of a thief and a murderer for the removal of a policeman. But were Germany as chivalrous as France, as clean-minded as America, not to let honor to the nations of the world, band together, would Great Britain yield an inch of British soil, or abate a jot of her rights at sea."

"When will this country learn that it is fighting for its life?"

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—Yesterday naval aircraft carried out a bombing raid on the enemy airdromes at Houtheville, (Belgium). The Admiralty reports, "many bombs were dropped on the objective. During the day, in the course of aerial fighting, one enemy aircraft was destroyed and two were driven out of control. Two of our machines failed to return."

### BRITISH RAID ENEMY POSITIONS

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—Early last night a party of our troops raided the enemy's trenches East of Hargicourt. The hostile artillery was active during the night in the neighborhood of Lens and Northeast of Gavrelle.

### FRENCH ARTILLERY SILENCES ENEMY BATTERIES.

(Special to the Guardian.)  
PARIS, Feb. 4.—The Belgian official statement on military operations issued last night reads: "During the last two days our artillery has silenced several enemy batteries and has carried out fires of destruction and reprisal against enemy organizations and defences in reply to artillery fire and bombing before Dixmude. An enemy aviator was brought down within our lines by British airmen."

## BRITISH TROOPS RAID HUN TRENCHES

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## FINDINGS OF THE DRYSDALE COMMISSION

### Pilot and Captain of Mont Blanc Placed Under Arrest on Charge of Manslaughter.

(Special to the Guardian.)  
HALIFAX, Feb. 4.—The findings of the Drysdale Commission in the collision case, includes gross neglect of the rules of navigation by Pilot Mackey and the Captain of the Mont Blanc. Pilot authorities are censured. Commander Wyatt is found guilty of neglect of duty. The Captain and pilot are under arrest charged with manslaughter.

## MILITARY SERVICE SECRETARY DIES IN QUEBEC

(Special to the Guardian.)  
QUEBEC, Feb. 4.—Col. Jonse, Acting Secretary of the Military Service Act in Quebec, dropped dead in church here yesterday.

## LIMITLESS RESOURCES OF GREAT BRITAIN

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—No limit to Britain's cash. The Parliamentary Committee report that five hundred million dollars can be raised from sources at present untouched each year.

## CARSON OPPOSES IRISH HOME RULE

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—Carson holds to his pledge to fight against home rule to the end. The compulsory national registration scheme will go forward at once. Women also must register. Will oppose any idea of dilatory labor to solve the labour problem.

## THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

TODAY IS THE 1283RD DAY OF CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR.  
TORONTO, Feb. 5.—Easterly to southeasterly winds increasing to gales; sleet or snow.  
The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 24 degrees above. At 10 a. m. it was 12 above. At 9 p. m. it was 15 above. The coldest of the previous night was 6 above.  
The tide will be high this afternoon at 4:07 and tomorrow at 5:03; it will be high tomorrow morning at 6:18 and Thursday at 7:26.  
The sun sets this afternoon at 5:34 and tomorrow at 5:35; it rises tomorrow morning at 7:29 and Thursday at 7:23.  
The moon rises tomorrow morning at 3:33.  
The last quarter of the moon was on Monday Feb. 4th, at 2:52 a. m.  
There will be a new moon on Monday, Feb. 11th at 5:05 a. m.  
The length of today will be ten hours and one minute.

Minard's Liniment Cures Rheumatism

THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.

TODAY IS THE 1283RD DAY OF CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR.

Minard's Liniment Cures Neuralgia.

## 7,000 SOLDIERS BALLOTS WILL NOT BE COUNTED

### Many More Likely to be Thrown Out When Envelopes Are Opened. Irregularities Overseas, Too. What Misrepresentation on the Part of the Larierites Has Done.

OTTAWA, Feb. 4.—It is estimated by those who are counting the soldiers' vote in Canada that at least seven thousand of the fifty-five thousand votes cast will be thrown out owing to non-compliance with the act. There are at least that many ballots which are improperly marked on the envelopes and cannot be allocated. When the envelopes are opened and the actual counting starts there may be found to be many hundreds more irregularities. Most of the ballots discarded are those of soldiers who imagined that no matter where their home they could vote in any constituency they choose.

Ever since a bill was introduced the Laurier press and Laurier speakers have been attacking the soldiers' Voting Bill on the ground that it could be manipulated to elect any member desired. Soldiers were led to believe they could select their riding, no matter where their home. The result has been that thousands of soldiers have voted in constituencies other than that in which they have declared they lived when they enlisted. These are all thrown out.

It is stated that the same proportion of ballots in England as in Canada are being put aside through irregularities. As there are some 250,000 ballots overseas this means that nearly thirty-five thousand ballots in England are being lost, or a total of some forty-two thousand. The majority of these ballots are being discarded through soldiers voting in ridings other than those they designated as their homes.

Most of the envelopes placed aside have been of men who lived in ridings in which they were not enlisted. Not wishing to lose their votes they designated some other riding. In every case such a ballot is not counted.

If a man gave his address as Halifax, and asked his vote to be counted for the Yukon, despite his request the ballot is counted for Halifax. Switching of ballots is thus impossible.

If the election had been close the loss of forty to fifty thousand votes, would have had a serious influence on the result. As it is, it will not affect the general outcome, but the discarded of so many votes is bound to have an influence on many seats. There were certain ridings in which the soldiers were evidently anxious to vote. If they gave their home as in one of these ridings they could of course vote in it, but the soldiers apparently gave their right addresses, but were under the impression they could vote where they desired.

Many ballots are being discarded through the carelessness of returning officers, who failed to secure all the necessary information to properly allocate the vote.

One thing the counting of the ballots has demonstrated is that despite all the shouts of the Opposition there was no manner in which the soldiers' vote could be manipulated, nor is it being manipulated. On the other hand the returning officers are almost over-scrupulous in their counting of the ballots. It is the strictest election ever conducted.

There are almost daily stories in the press about such and such a candidate securing hundreds or thousands of soldiers' votes. No man knows what any candidate has secured. Neither in Canada nor in England have the scrutineers passed the stage of allocating the ballots. This will take two weeks yet and the real counting will not come until the envelopes are opened.

Method of Voting.

It might be interesting to review the method of voting. The soldier was given a ballot with five spaces. He could vote for an individual candidate whose name he wrote on the ballot, he could vote for the Government candidate, opposition candidate, independent or labor candidate. This envelope when marked was placed in an envelope on the outside of which had to be sworn to by the voter.

1. What is your name?  
2. What is your rank? What is your number?  
3. In what force or service are you?

4. Are you a British subject? Have you previously voted at this election?  
5. Were you in Canada when you were appointed, enlisted, enrolled or called out in active service?  
6. Specify the names of the place or places in Canada (giving streets and numbers where possible where you last continuously resided during at least four months of the twelve months immediately preceding your appointment, enlistment, enrollment or calling out on active service. State if you can the electoral district wherein such place or places in which you so reside are situated. Electoral district, Province, etc.

7. If you cannot specify as required by question No. 6, or state as required by question No. 7, then state in what electoral district or place within Canada (giving street and number where possible) you have resided at any other time than is referred to in question No. 6.

8. If none of your answers to question Nos. 6, 7, and 8 specify or

state as required thereby, to what electoral district to you desire your vote to be applied?  
I certify that the above named military elector did this day make to me under oath the preceding set forth answers to the preceding set forth questions.

Dated this day of 1917.  
Deputy Presiding Officer.

Many ballots of British subjects who enlisted in the United States have been lost through a declaration that the voter wished to vote in "Toronto." No particular riding has been designated and there is no way of locating the vote.

Where no answer was given to questions six, seven and eight, and a riding was specified in question nine, the ballot has been allowed.

The system of allocating the ballots is interesting. The scrutineers are armed with electoral maps, post office guides, directories, etc. There are ballot boxes for every riding in Canada. First the six hundred bags containing the ballots cast on this continent were opened in a room at the Victoria Museum before officials representing both sides. The envelopes were then distributed into tin boxes one marked for each riding without question as to whether they were regular or irregular. These boxes were next opened and the envelopes over which there was no question were placed in one box and those which showed irregularities placed in another box. In some ridings there were more irregular envelopes, which are discarded, than those regularly filled out. The process is a long, slow one, as each address has to be verified to ascertain the riding in which the soldier was entitled to vote.

Extraordinary Precautions.

When the envelopes are all distributed the boxes will be again opened and the actual counting will commence. More irregularities may again be found. For instance, if a soldier had written in the name of a member who was not running in the riding in which he had the right to vote, it would be discarded.

Every ballot will be entered in a poll book and in addition every envelope will be placed in a box and kept in case of a recount. Altogether no election was ever held in which such extraordinary precautions were taken to prevent ballot stuffing or ballot switching.

## SUPREME WAR COUNCIL DECIDES TO PROSECUTE WAR TO FINISH

(Special to the Guardian.)  
LONDON, Feb. 4.—The Supreme War Council decided to prosecute the war with renewed vigor and see nothing in enemy utterances which even approximate a readiness to agree with Allies' moderate conditions of peace.

## Conspiracy Charge In New Brunswick

ST. JOHN, N. B., Feb. 4.—At the session of the Commission enquiring into the disposal of certain funds said to have been paid by contractors of the Valley Railway for political purposes it was announced by Hon. W. P. Jones, Counsel for the Government of New Brunswick, that four men will be prosecuted for conspiracy and that all attempts will be made to get a part of the money back.

### PROPRIETOR OF STANLEY HOUSE TRURO, DEAD.

(Special to the Guardian.)  
TRURO, Feb. 4.—John H. Stevens, proprietor of the Stanley House, Truro, died Saturday.

### JOHN L. SULLIVAN DEAD.

(Special to the Guardian.)  
NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—John Lawrence Sullivan, the world's most famous fighter died yesterday at Abington, Mass. He was fifty-nine years of age.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

(Continued on page three)