

FOR JOHN... MILL HELP... WORK ON... CROONS AND...

PROBE INTO THE CAUSE OF OTTAWA FIRE

Statements Differ as to the Point in the Reading Room at Which Blaze Started.

COL. SHERWOOD

Commissioner of Dominion Police Makes Report to Commons On the Fire.

Ottawa Report.—Conflicting evidence as to the exact place of origin of the fire which destroyed the Parliament Buildings one week ago...

200 TURKS DIED IN SMYRNA RAID

Recent French Aeroplanes Attack Had Deadly Effect.

Two Vessels Were Also Sunk at Their Docks.

Athens Cable.—Two hundred Turkish soldiers are believed to have been killed and scores wounded, three military warehouses were burned and two ships sunk by the French aviators...

DURAZZO GONE?

Vienna Reports That Her Troops Have Taken City.

Vienna, via Berlin and Amsterdam, Cable.—A despatch from Cetinje says it is reported here that Austro-Hungarian troops have reached Durazzo...

ASQUITH FIRM

In Reply to Protest Over Closing of Galleries.

London, Cable.—Premier Asquith today received an influential communication from the Government of the day...

MINE DESTROYS SNACK

Paris, Cable.—The sinking of the Italian mine "Audace" off the mouth of the Gironde on Monday as the result of the explosion of a floating mine which had been hidden in a cave...

COL. SHERWOOD'S REPORT

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—A report by Col. A. P. Sherwood, Commissioner of Dominion Police, upon the fire which destroyed the Parliament buildings was read by the Prime Minister in the Commons to-day. It was dated Feb. 4 and read as follows:

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

Calgary Soldiers Wreck Two Restaurants Which Were Employing German Waiters.

SWISS LOAN

Nothing in Report of Britain Sending a Special Envoy to Washington.

The Syrian colony of Montreal has given \$2,270 to the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Old Knox College, Toronto, has been secured for a soldiers' convalescent home.

Berlin Free Public Library is to be opened on Sunday afternoon, trustees taking charge in turn.

Austria was asked by the United States for an explanation of the submarine tanker Petrolite.

Fire losses were exceedingly heavy in Brantford during the past year, amounting to \$209,578.

Former District Fire Chief Gunn, of Toronto, has been restored to his rank and assigned to East Toronto.

The Brantford Municipal Railway Commissioners decided to give ten fares for a quarter to all men in khaki.

The license of the Clarkson Hotel, Barrie, where drink was sold to a soldier in prohibited hours, is to be suspended for six weeks.

French must not be used contrary to law in the Green Valley Separate School, according to a judgment given by Mr. Justice Masten.

The British War Office has sanctioned the raising of two overseas battalions of the London regiment recruiting among colonial in England.

Major (Rev.) Williams, of Hamilton, chief recruiting officer of the Toronto military district, plans to mobilize boys, women and men over age to take the places of young men going on active service.

An order in Council has been passed renewing the agreement of the Dominion Government with the Province of Alberta and Saskatchewan regarding maintenance of the Northwest Mounted Police.

At the end of the second day of the three-day campaign to raise \$100,000 for the Canadian Patriotic Fund, Brantford citizens had contributed over \$86,000.

The Swiss Government announces that the new loan of 100,000,000 francs, bearing 4 1/2 per cent. interest, has been over-subscribed by 25,000,000 francs.

An official of the British Foreign Office said that as far as he knew there was no truth in the report that a special envoy would be sent to Washington.

It was learned in Quebec, on good authority at the Parliament, that negotiations are going on to employ allies in Canada on the improvement of the roads leading to the Valcartier camp.

M. W. Bro. E. A. Evans, of Quebec, was re-elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, A. F. & A. M., at the forty-sixth annual communication, held in Montreal.

Two big restaurants were completely wrecked on Thursday night by a mob of soldiers, who alleged that the restaurants were hiring German waiters. The police were helpless.

The Town of Renfrew, which last year held second place in the Dominion as regards per capita contribution to the Patriotic Fund, has once more risen to the obligation of the Empire by subscribing \$42,000 during a four days' campaign.

BOB COOK AGAIN

Dufferin Man, in Trouble Before Breaks From Battalion.

Quebec Report.—Pte. Bob Cook, of the Wellington Battalion, a paroled prisoner from Kingston, who was out on probation for a year, was captured by the battalion this morning under exciting circumstances and is still at large.

LABOR MAP ENLISTS Berlin, Ont. Report.—Hughes, vice-president of the Trades and Labor Council, which aroused considerable interest recently by passing a resolution condemning the recruiting campaign of the 11th Battalion, enlisted this morning in the organization, which is headed by a well-known labor agitator.

HOLZER GONE FOR GOOD. Sarnia, Report.—The American immigration officers at Port Huron conducted an investigation this afternoon into the case of Rev. Arthur Holzer, the American pastor of Sarnia, who made a getaway on Tuesday night following an investigation of his activities. Holzer has been given permission to enter the United States. It is declared, however, that he is not to return to Canada.

It's all right to look on the bright side, but perhaps the man who does so seldom gets below the surface of life.

NOTED MILLER

Well Known Canadian Killed in Auto Accident at Los Angeles.

Goderich Report.—S. A. McGaw, until recently general manager of the Western Canada Flour Mills, died last night in Los Angeles, as a result of an automobile accident.

London Cable.—A British official statement was issued to-night on the Kent coast by German seaplanes on Wednesday as follows:

"The first raider appears to have selected for his target a tramway car full of women and children and the first bomb fell on the road close behind the car and exploded without damage. The driver pulled up immediately and the passengers alighted. There was no panic, although the raider could be plainly seen circling round at a great height, and three more bombs were dropped in an adjoining field.

"The second raider made an attack on a large girls' school. One bomb fell through the roof and exploded in the upper story, doing some material damage. Portions of the ceiling fell into the room below, where a class of small children was being held. One little girl was slightly cut on the foot, and a maid was slightly injured.

"Three other bombs fell in the school grounds, where two exploded without damage. The third failed to explode. Two other bombs were dropped on outlying parts of the town, causing slight material damage. A woman received some cuts on the cheek.

"Within a few minutes of sighting the hostile aircraft, naval and military aeroplanes went in pursuit, but were unable to overtake them, owing to the precipitate nature of their flight."

Returned Canadian Surgeon Tells of Britain's New Scheme.

Glass Bottomed Boats Used in the Search.

New York Report.—Dr. M. S. Ingalls, arrived to-day on the Anchor Line steamer Cameronia, from Liverpool, declared that he had knowledge of the capture in British nets of seventeen German submarines and told how the crew of one of them had been found shot to death after it had been towed ashore.

Dr. Ingalls said he had been allowed to descend into this submarine and had seen the bodies.

"To save them from death by suffocation," he said, "the commander had shot all his men and then himself, apparently."

Dr. Ingalls added that the British are now making use of glass bottom boats with more or less success in scouting for submarines, in conjunction with a hydroplane fleet. The glass used, he said, gives a clear view of the water to a depth of fifty or sixty feet.

240,000 TROOPS RAISED SO FAR

Canada's Forces Are Increasing Rapidly at Present.

Average Increase 1,000 a Day During January.

Ottawa Report.—Recruiting figures for January show an average of practically a thousand men per day for the full month. Commanding officers of each division say that the men are enlisting now at a most satisfactory rate.

The continued keeping up of the flow of new men to the colors is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that up to the end of last year Canada had already enlisted about 210,000 men. The total number recruited to date, including officers, is now over the 240,000 mark.

To the total number of 1st Military District (London) has contributed a little over 20,000 men, the 2nd District (Toronto) about 54,000 men, the 3rd District (Kingston) a little over 25,000 men, the 4th District (Montreal) about 22,500, the 5th District (Maritime Provinces) nearly 23,000, the 10th Military District (Manitoba and Saskatchewan) about 46,500, the 11th District (Alberta), about 22,000, and the 13th Military District (British Columbia and the Yukon), nearly 22,000.

During January the Toronto District recruited over 8,000 men, the Maritime province about 2,000; western Ontario about 4,000, eastern Ontario about 3,000, Quebec about 2,000, Maritime Provinces about 2,000, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, over 5,000, Alberta about 2,000, and British Columbia nearly 2,000.

ALLY CREDIT

Anglo-French Arrangement Made, Says M. Ribot.

Paris Cable.—Minister of Finance Ribot told his colleagues in the Cabinet London to-day that as a result of his visit to London with the Governor of the Bank of France, from which they returned last night, the Bank of England would lend assistance to the Bank of France to facilitate commercial credit in England, and that arrangements had been made between the two Governments for payment of purchase made by the French Government in the United States and Great Britain.

M. Ribot said that the London Stock Exchange would admit securities belonging to French soldiers to be dealt in on condition that the intermediaries should be the Bank of France and the Bank of England and that the proceeds of the sales should be employed in paying for purchases in England.

A man always wears a bigger hat just about the time he graduates from college than at any other time in his life.

BOMBED TRAINS AND SCHOOLS NO LET-UP TO THE STRUGGLE IN THE WEST

Recent German Air Raiders Demonstrated Kultur In Their War On English Women and Children.

London Cable.—A British official statement was issued to-night on the Kent coast by German seaplanes on Wednesday as follows:

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"Within a few minutes of sighting the hostile aircraft, naval and military aeroplanes went in pursuit, but were unable to overtake them, owing to the precipitate nature of their flight."

Desperate Fighting Around Vimy and South of the Somme is Continued.

FRENCH GAINS In Latter Phase Allies Took and Kept a Footing in German First Line.

London Cable.—The fighting in the Vimy sector north of Arras against which the Germans have been launching violent attacks for some days continues with little decrease in intensity. The Germans captured a section of French communicating trenches west of La Folle yesterday, but were dislodged by a counter-attack. At sundown last night the Germans again attacked, this time directing their assault against the Neuville-La Lolle road. They were repulsed on the greater part of the front attacked, but recovered a mine crater which they had previously lost.

Hand grenades fighting continued to-day in the same group of trenches west of La Folle, the French pushing their counter-attacks with success and making some progress. The Germans made two assaults west of Hill 149 (northwest of Vimy), but failed to gain. On the Neuville-St. Vaast-Thelus road the Germans exploded a mine, but the French anticipated them and occupied the crater. Second only in interest to the operations in Arras is the combat south of the Somme. Here the French gained a foothold in the first line of German trenches to the north of Brequincourt and repulsed a German attempt to drive them out.

Two large shells were thrown in the direction of Belfort to-day by the German long-range gun or guns which have been bombarding the French fortresses for the past few days. The location of the battery doing the firing was reported to the French yesterday and to-day, immediately after the two German shells were fired, the French long-range guns took up the bombardment of the German emplacement.

The British report chronicles a successful bombing raid by eight aeroplanes on enemy huts at Terhand, several huts being damaged.

BRITISH REPORT London, Feb. 16.—The British official communication issued to-day says:

"Eighteen aeroplanes carried out a successful bombing raid yesterday on enemy huts at Terhand. Several huts were damaged and a steam lorry was hit. All the machines returned safely. Some skirmishes between patrols took place last night east of Kemmel. Last night and to-day the hostile artillery has been active against Bray, Suzanne, Ouliers and Fouquilliers. Early this morning the enemy spiked a mine northeast of Giverny. No damage was done and we suffered no casualties.

"There was mutual shelling to-day south of the Bois Grenier. Hostile artillery shelled Poperinghe and Elverdinghe to-day. Our artillery engaged an enemy battery west of St. Julien."

FRENCH REPORT Paris, Feb. 16.—The following official communication was issued by the War Office to-night:

"In Arras in the course of the day we continued to make progress by means of grenades in the underground passages to the west of La Folle. Two German attacks directed against our positions to the west of Hill 149 were completely repulsed.

"To the north of the road from Neuville to Thelus the Germans exploded a mine, the crater of which was occupied.

"To the south of the Somme a detachment of enemy infantry, which attempted to debouch, was driven back to the trenches by our curtain of fire.

"In the region of Beuvraignes our artillery destroyed a blockhouse and bombarded the encampments of the enemy.

"In Champagne a destructive fire on the German works in the direction of the Butte du Mesnil gave excellent results.

"In the Woivreux sector carried out in the forest of Montmarais, on a salient of the enemy line, a violent bombardment, which caused the explosion of ammunition depots.

"The Germans to-day fired two more shells of heavy calibre in the direction of Belfort. Our artillery immediately took under its fire the emplacement of the enemy battery, which was marked yesterday. At the same time we shelled the military establishments at Dornach, southwest of Nulhausen."

AN AUSTRIAN IN TROUBLE. Kingston, Report.—The police to-day took into custody a young Austrian, who is 35 years of age and an Australian, who with his wife, has been living for some time on the Indian road, near Montreal Street. He is alleged to have written a letter to a friend stating that there were many "b-b-b" in Kingston, and that an effort would be made to get together.

PTE. FIELDER ARRAIGNED. Halifax, N. S., Report.—Preliminary investigation into the charge of murdering Sgt. Williamson preferred against Pte. Fielder, of the 63rd Halifax Rifles, was opened here this morning. Several witnesses testified that Fielder was subjected to fits of melancholia, and that on the day of the murder he was in a highly nervous state of mind.

Luxury is said to be the lure of the movie, and it does indeed cheer one up to see Richelleux keep the telephone for a quiet little talk with Anna of Austria.—Washington Post.