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The Daily Mail

THE WEATHER.
Maritime — Moderate to fresh northerly to westerly winds, fair and mild.

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ALLIES MAY COMPEL AUSTRIA TO SUE FOR PEACE; GENERAL JOFFRE MAKING FIERCE DRIVE ON WESTERN FRONT

TORY WAR HORSES TO THE GLUE FACTORY

Farmers Living Near the Valcartier Camp Gave Evidence Before the Public Accounts Committee at Ottawa—Complain of Shabby Treatment by the Militia Authorities—No Money Yet for Farms Expropriated by the Government.

Ottawa, April 8—A number of farmers who were dispossessed of their lands at Valcartier last year when the camp was taken over by the Militia Department told the public accounts committee today that they were not at all pleased either at the government's way of doing business, or with the necessity of leaving their old homes and finding new.

Some of them also told a story of daily funerals of dead horses sent to the last rites of the glue factory or the sugar refinery. At least the neighbors said the bones went to the sugar refinery "to make sugar with."

One farmer, William Lyon, said he saw dead horses lying on the ground all over the place. Another farmer, Frank McLaughlin, said he saw dead horses passing his place every day for three weeks, at the rate of about four a day. The evidence along this line was a corroborative commentary on the evidence given yesterday as to the kind of horses bought by the government in Nova Scotia by A. DeWitt Foster, M.P., and his friends. There was some other corroborative evidence of the rumors that went about last fall in regard to the burning of military clothing and other supplies on the camp ground after the troops left. Mr. Lyon said that he had seen piles of soldiers' coats and hats burning for a day and a night while lumber, both old and new, and roasts of beef, vegetables, etc., in large quantities were heaped on the flames.

This evidence was decidedly contradictory to the report of Major General Hughes' board, which was appointed to investigate these reports last fall and found that there was nothing in them.

NOT PAID FOR FARMS.

The farmers who gave evidence today were practically all English-speaking and they found fault both with the prices which were offered to them for their lands and crops, and with the long delay in receiving payment. A number of the cases had been referred to the exchequer court and the legal delays are not making the militia department very popular in the neighborhood of Valcartier.

It is an English-speaking settlement around Valcartier and the farmers who have been dispossessed of the homes which have been occupied for generations do not like the prospect of seeking other localities, especially in view of the difficulty of locating in Quebec any place where an English-speaking community can settle down together. The sentimental reasons seem to have played a considerable part in prices which they asked for their lands and which the militia department declined to give.

"We are, I think, about the only old English group in Quebec," said Mr. Lyon. "We have our own schools and churches and everything. I don't think we could be as happy again anywhere else. Never so happy again. Some years ago my boys wanted to go to the west and homestead. I told them I would go and look over the land for them. I went all through the prairie provinces and stayed from September until the next July. After that, no more west for me, home was good enough for me."

FARMER'S TALE OF WOE.

Michael Woodcock, an old white-bearded farmer, said he had two hundred acres and was offered \$2,500. He asked \$8,070. They had spoiled half his crop and paid him nothing as yet, and he had been compelled to sell his

cattle, hogs and horses at a very low figure.

"They shut off my fishing in the lake," he said. "The lake was on my place and I used to fish for speckled trout. A big notice was put up saying: 'No fishing allowed.' The military officers used to fish but I obeyed the notice. The minister of militia and defence fished there himself."

"Was it on a Sunday he fished?" asked Mr. Carvell.

"I couldn't exactly say," replied the witness.

Colonel Hallick of the ordnance department, was called to testify concerning the reported burning of clothing and other equipment at Valcartier. He said he had heard the rumors but he could not get any direct evidence on it. As to the clothing burned, he said that it had been destroyed because it was infected with vermin and the order to burn had been given on the authority of a regimental board.

Statements which were made in the Commons and before the committee last week by Major General Hughes with regard to the interference of certain Liberals in the purchase of the lands, were discounted today by the evidence given by Alex Robinson, a solicitor of Quebec.

General Hughes had told the committee that Mr. Robinson had shook his fist in Colonel McBain's face and had threatened to use influence with Sir Wilfrid Laurier to secure better prices for the lands which his clients were trying to sell.

Mr. Robinson said today that there had never been any such altercation with Colonel McBain and that he had never at any time said he would use the influence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier or any one else in regard to the purchase. Col. McBain corroborated this and he said that there must have been some misunderstanding.

TROOPS MARCH OUT

The men enlisted here for the 28th Field Battery had a marchout this afternoon under the command of Capt. D. D. MacDonald. They went across the highway bridge to St. Mary's and Gibson. The men of the 55th Battalion were out for a marchout under the command of Major W. J. Osborne. Both bodies of troops made a good appearance although the 55th is at a disadvantage by not having uniforms. Major Crooke of the 28th Battery is still ill.

ST. JOHN BILLS.

The Corporations Committee of the House this morning further considered the Pine Valley Cemetery bill. W. S. Fisher and Mr. Aude of St. John, opposed the bill and Mr. R. B. Hanson supported it. A bill to enlarge the boundaries of Cedar Hill Cemetery, St. John, was also considered. This bill was opposed by Mr. L. P. D. Tiley, F. R. Taylor, K.C.; Dr. Melvin and J. R. Armstrong and supported by J. A. Barry. The committee agreed to recommend the bill.

THE WAR TAXES.

The government's alleged war taxes go into effect on Thursday, April 15. On that date postage on letters and postcards will be increased by one cent. A two cent stamp must be affixed to each letter and there will be a special tax on railway tickets. Heavy penalties are provided for failure to observe the law.

Mr. W. S. Fisher of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

London, April 9—Despatches received here indicate that the Allies are co-operating to compel Austria to sue for peace. Simultaneously with the big Russian drive in the Carpathians, General Joffre is in the western front is delivering fiercer attacks to prevent re-inforcements from being sent against the Russians in the Carpathian mountains.

RUSSIANS MAKING PROGRESS

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

Petrograd, April 9—The Russians have secured all the heights in the Beskids and are advancing on a fifty mile front between the Uzkok Pass and River Topla. Russians are in possession of Cizna and Smolnik and advancing through Rostok Pass.

THE PRINZ EITEL'S BIG BLUFF

New York, April 9—A despatch to the Herald from Newport News says:—One of the greatest bluffs ever staged was called to-night when the Collector of Customs, Mr. Norman Hamilton, walked on board the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich with a curt message from the United States government informing Captain Max Thierichens that unless the sea scourge was clear of territorial water of the United States by four o'clock tomorrow morning she would be interned by the United States. Having full knowledge of the approaching "call," the commander already had prepared for presentation a notification of voluntary internment. Regard for the lives of his crew and non-appearance of "expected relief" was given as the only reason for the act.

WILL SAIL AS USUAL

New York, April 9—Captains of Italian steamers now in port here expected to sail as usual. They say they have received no orders to postpone sailings as reported last night.

TROOPS FOR LAND ATTACKS

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

London, April 9—Despatches from Athens received here report that transports convoyed by cruisers are landing detachments of Allied troops on Turkish soil for a and attack upon the Dardanelles forts.

FLEET WILL FORCE DARDANELLES

Rome, April 9 General Pau, the French leader who is returning from his tour of the Russian front and the Balkan capitals, arrived in Rome from Syracuse this morning. He declared that the allied fleet will force the Dardanelles as soon as combined land and sea is started.

London, April 9—The Daily Telegraph's Athen's correspondent says he learns from Dedeaghat that several transports of the Allies escorted by warships were distinctly visible Wednesday morning in splendid weather off Enos, and that it was supposed troops were being disembarked along the Turkish coast.

GOVERNMENT WILL LIKELY PULL OFF A WAR TIME ELECTION

Ottawa, Ont., April 8—The Parliament of Canada has been served with its first formal notice of the intention of the Borden administration to pull off a "war time" election. The Frisby bill to provide for the taking apart from partisan considerations, and counting of the votes of the Canadian soldiers at the front has been made a government measure. It was presented to the house by the minister of justice for second reading submitted to the house. He expressed the minister invited suggestion and criticism, confessing frankly that in such radical legislation it was apparently impossible to provide the ordinary safeguards surrounding an election. Hon. Mr. Doherty asked that the measure be considered on its merit apart from partisan considerations. Sir Wilfrid Laurier met him upon that ground. The Liberal leader presented practically the only serious expression of conviction on the measure submitted to the house. He expressed himself as favoring the proposal to criticism, confessing frankly that in

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