

In order to ensure changes being made in advertisements copy must reach this office not later than nine a.m. on the day of publication.

Maritime—Strong winds and gales southeasterly, shifting to southwesterly and westerly with rain.

ANOTHER BRITISH STEAMER IS SUNK

MAY DUST GEN. HUGHES FROM THE GOVERNMENT

Opposition to Canada's War Minister Has Been Given Vent in Tory Newspapers—Many Irregularities and Misuse of Patronage—General Sam May go to the Front—Average Price Paid for War Horses was \$164.29.

Ottawa, Feb. 24—While the government forces here are unconsciously deploring the so-called breaking of the political truce by the Liberals, via attacks on the government's tariff proposals and other legislation and administration, apart altogether from the war, these same members are by no means observing any truce with regard to their war against Canada's war minister.

The opposition within the government's ranks to Major General Hughes, which has found public vent in many Conservative newspapers, and which culminated in a stormy Conservative caucus at the opening of the session, is still being continued. Difficulties with the minister of militia with regard to patronage, war contracts and the non-partisan administration of the department have been accentuated, rather than minimized, by the persistent agitation of the past three weeks for his removal, and replacing by a minister more acceptable to the Rogers' group on the government side of the House.

Disclosures which have been foreshadowed as to wasteful expenditures, unsatisfactory contracts, etc., in connection with the expeditionary forces, are causing considerable uneasiness in the government ranks.

HUGHES COULD HIT BACK.

While General Hughes himself is perhaps the least to blame for some of the irregularities arising from the misuse of patronage, it is thought by his opponents that political harmony within the party and possibly a good effect on the country might be secured by a change of ministers.

The opponents of General Hughes, however, are rather chary about taking any drastic measures with him, for they know he is in a position to hit back, and is in a disposition to do so, if he thinks he is being treacherously attacked. The suggestion is now made that no objection will be placed in his way if he decides to carry out his personal wish of going to the front and getting into the fight himself at the head of his troops. It is believed that if the way is opened up for a suitable command for him at the front he will wash his hands of patronage and other political troubles here and gladly set a new world to conquer on the firing line in Europe.

The developments of the next two weeks are awaited with considerable interest in parliamentary circles.

THE COST OF WAR HORSES.

A return to parliament states that the general average price paid for 3,061 horses purchased in the east during the period mentioned was \$164.29. In the different districts, however, the average price paid including the expenses of buying but not including the cost of transportation, varies from \$158.30 in one of the Toronto districts to \$188.94 in Nova Scotia, where, it was stated in the House this afternoon, A. Dewit Foster, Conservative member for Kings, has purchased 428 horses "without remuneration."

In fact, the disparity in prices paid cannot be attributed even to difference in locality or province, since in the three Toronto purchasing districts the prices paid averaged from \$159.30 in district No. 8 to \$164.94 in district No. 6 and to \$156.52 in district No. 7.

The wide disparity shown in the average price paid in the various dis-

tricts can best be shown from the figures supplied, which are as follows:

Nova Scotia, \$188.94.
Quebec, \$174.20.
Ottawa, \$157.99.
Kingston, \$165.45.
No. 6 district, Toronto, \$164.94.
No. 7 district, Toronto, \$166.52.
No. 8 district, Toronto, \$159.30.
London and Toronto, \$165.39.
No. 11 district, Toronto, \$174.29.
As the average quality of the horses is presumably the same, a difference of \$20 to \$30 in the average cost as between one district and another seems to need considerable explaining.

PRINCESS PATS' TRANSPORTATION.

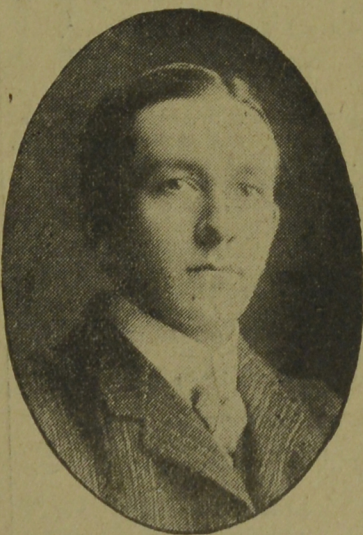
Ottawa, Feb. 24—Several questions mostly with regard to militia matters were answered in the House today. Sir Robert Borden made a statement in regard to the departure of the Princess Patricia regiment from Canada, informing the House that the steamship Megantic, on which the regiment went from Montreal to Levis, and not been chartered, passenger rates being paid for the regiment, a total of \$54,754. He could not give the reason for the delay in the sailing of the regiment because of the request of the war office for secrecy.

General Hughes told Hon. Rudolphe Lemieux that 2,500 pairs of slippers

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JOHN PALMER COMPANY HAD SATISFACTORY YEAR

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the John Palmer Company, Limited, was held at the company's office here on Tuesday. Reports submitted showed that in spite of the depression due to the war and other causes the company had enjoyed a fairly prosperous year. The goods are sold in every province of Canada and a satisfactory trade is being developed in the United States. The old board of directors composed of Messrs. C. K. Palmer, John Kilburn, J. Fraser Gregory, G. A. Kilburn and W. Kilburn, was re-elected. At a subsequent meeting of the directors the following officers were elected:—President—Charles K. Palmer, 1st vice president—John Kilburn, 2nd vice president—J. Fraser Gregory, secretary, W. F. Todd.



CHARLES K. PALMER
Pres. John Palmer & Co., Ltd.

NOTE PRESENTED BY GERARD

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

Berlin, via London, Feb. 24—Mr. James W. Gerard, American Ambassador to Germany, last evening presented to the Foreign Office the American note which embodies the American proposals for the settlement of the situation arising from food-stuffs into Germany and the German warfare against British mercantile shipping. It is understood that proposals were submitted simultaneously in London. No statement regarding the nature of these proposals or the German attitude on them can be obtained here, but it is believed that there is at least a prospect of their acceptance by Germany.

MEN OF 48 CALLED TO LANDSTURM

Geneva, via Paris, Feb. 24—Germans up to the age of forty-eight eligible for service with the Landsturm troops have been called from Switzerland and it is reported here that those living in other neutral countries also directed to join the colors not later than March 3.

ANOTHER STEAMER SUNK.

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

London, Feb. 24—The British steamer Deptford 1208 tons burden was sunk late yesterday by either a torpedo or mine off Scarborough. One member of the crew was drowned the others landing at Shields after great hardships in an open boat.

FEDERAL PRISON FOR HORN

Bangor, Feb. 25—George W. Ross of Vanceboro, deputy sheriff, who made the arrest of Werner Horn after the sensational attempt to destroy the international railway bridge, and sheriff S. E. Woodman of Machias were in Bangor Tuesday forenoon, leaving on the afternoon train for Boston, where they have been summoned with eight others to appear before the grand jury in the federal court and testify in regard to the subject which has interested the entire country and Canada.

Indictments will be sought by the United States authorities charging Horn with transporting dynamite in passenger trains from New York to Boston and to Vanceboro, Maine. The chief of the United States secret service has been working on the case and has had long talks with Horn. If convicted the prisoner may go to the Federal prison at Atlanta, Ga.

REWARD FOR FIRST ZEPPELIN

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE MAIL.)

Paris, Feb. 24—The Marquis of Orano has offered five thousand francs reward for the first Zeppelin brought down in France.

RUSSIANS MAKING PROGRESS.

Berlin, Feb. 25—The official report on the progress of the war given out in Berlin to-day says the Russians have succeeded in crossing the Bohr River in Northern Poland in two places. Reports are current in influential circles here that further obstacles have arisen to prevent the invasion of Russia. The feeding of the population in the part of East Prussia which had been occupied by the Russians is proceeding with difficulty.

London, Feb. 24—The German blockade of the British Isles has been in effect for a week with the result that so far as is known two Norwegian, one French and five British steamers have been sunk or torpedoed by submarines, with the surprisingly small loss of four lives. Two of the steamers, the Beiridge and the Dinorah succeeded in reaching port.

On the other side of the account it is reported that two German submarines are missing and that a third

had been hit and possibly sunk by a French destroyer.

Besides the vessels which fell victims to the submarines, two American and one Norwegian steamer have been sunk by mines in the North Sea, and the Swedish steamer Specia and one or two British steamers are overdue, and it is feared have been lost with their crews.

In almost every case the steamer

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VOCATIONAL TRAINING DISCUSSED BY SCHOOL BOARD

The regular monthly meeting of the School Board was held yesterday with Dr. VanWart, chairman, presiding. The other members in attendance included Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Cox and Messrs. A. A. Sterling, J. J. Weddall, Dr. Crockett, J. M. Lemont and P. J. Hughes. Mr. J. W. Spurdun was out of the city.

A delegation from the Board of Trade met the trustees for the purpose of discussing vocational training and was composed of President J. D. Palmer, Dr. C. C. Jones and Mr. H. S. Campbell. The enthusiastic president, in addressing the Board, read a resolution expressing the appreciation of the Board of Trade of the action of the trustees in introducing a course in Domestic Science in the city schools; also urging a more extended course in manual training and woodwork for boys in the higher grades. The Board of Trade also thinks it very desirable to organize special industrial classes, in charge of a competent male teacher for boys who do not expect to grade

or write the High School entrance examinations. The trustees are also requested to seek the co-operation of the provincial government in the organization of an Evening Industrial School in the city.

In presenting the resolution, Mr. Palmer gave much valuable information which will, no doubt, aid the trustees in the consideration of additional vocational training.

Dr. Jones stated that he believed this part of Canada is away behind any section of America or he might say, of the world. He gave illustrations to prove his assertion and claimed a more practical education was needed today and that more attention should be given to the subject of drawing.

Mr. Campbell emphasized the urgent need of a more thorough practical knowledge of common things today. In old times a lad would learn a trade of some kind, but today it is difficult

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