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EDITORIALS

The decision of Premier Fleming, of New Brunswick, to remain in office after having been found guilty of graft will not find much sympathy from either party in Canada. In discussing the matter the Vancouver News-Advertiser has the following to say:

"But the immediate fact is that a commission created by the Legislature, at the instance of Mr. Flemmings Cabinet colleagues, has found at least one charge of extorting money sustained, and has also strongly censured him in respect to other matters. It is understood that the commissioners were chosen by Lieutenant Governor Wood at the request of the acting premier. Whatever may be the personal sympathies and regret of the other ministers they cannot disregard this finding, even if Mr. Flemming did not see the necessity of resigning. But he must see that necessity. If no other member of the cabinet was in any way connected with the proceedings, Mr. Flemming can hardly expect them all to make themselves parties to it as they would by retaining office with him. Nor is it likely that the Lieutenant Governor would allow the report of the commission to be ignored in this way."

The loss of another British warship is announced and the news bears with it a biting sting. There is no one who will

complain of the loss of ships when they have had an equal chance against the foe. The tide of battle is ever uncertain and losses and disasters are always a part of the game. What is galling in the extreme, however, is the loss of dashing big ships without even getting the smell of powder. The impression gained from the dispatch is that she was destroyed by the explosion of one of her own shells, probably carelessly handled. This, indeed, is more consoling if it should afterwards be shown to be the result of a shot from a German submarine.

Yesterdays dispatches from the Russian front are very reassuring. If the reports are true there has been a telling defeat inflicted on the German army in Poland. Previous dispatches had declared that this was to be one of the decisive battles of the war and if the Russians have succeeded in putting a quarter of the hostile army out of business it means much for the immediate success of her armies. It will mean that the spirit of her forces will be raised to a high key and that the fall of Cracow and investment of Posen will be early actualities. Apart from the advantage of their big guns in taking forts the Germans do not seem to be able to have things their own way as they expected.

Notwithstanding the fact that the city engineering de-



partment was cut in two some months ago, why not cut it again in two? There is one engineer now in the employ of the city at \$300 per month with an assistant at a little less and there is not work enough for one good man. Is this city a charity institution, or why is it that a big force of engineers must be kept on when there is nothing to do. The people will expect the department cleaned out and organized on a business basis.



THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF GERMANY.

The fortresses upon which the Kaiser will partly depend to stem the swift tide of Russian invasion are Danzig, Graudenz, Thorn and Posen. Russian cavalry is at Pleschen, inside the German border, after driving the Germans from their trenches along the Warthe River.

With a new camera lens of French invention for long distance work it is possible to get a picture of a man 600 yards away large enough to fill a plate.

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CANADIAN SQUADRON STRANDED IN LONDON

The Career of Elliott's Horse Comes to an Unfortunate Close.

London, Nov. 25.—The career of the Canadian squadron bearing the name of Elliott's Horse has come to an untimely end. Eighty men are stranded here, and would be without food and bed but for the timely intervention of Colonel Ward, of the Pay and Canadian Record Office and officials of the Jack Club. Colonel Ward has undertaken to foot their dinner and breakfast bills and they will remain guests of the club for the night.

There are eighty men in the squadron, all hailing from the West and, with one or two exceptions, have all seen active service as cavalrymen. Although they are rather chary about giving any information on the subject it appears that Elliott's Horse was raised three months ago by a well known Winnipeg lawyer, who intended the men to join the Canadian contingent as a recognized unit of that name. It is asserted that they negotiated with the Canadian Military Department but were told that mounted men were not wanted in the first contingent, and it should be stated that so far as the military authorities at Ottawa are concerned their responsibility ends there.

The rest of the story savors of fiction. The four officers, who had already been appointed to take charge of the men, when they heard that the squadron would not be officially recognized, took matters much into their own hands and gave the men to understand that, on arrival at Montreal, official recognition would be forthcoming. When they reached there, however, they were informed that some hitch had occurred, but that everything would be in order by the time they reached England. Before sailing from Montreal their own appointed superior officers got them to sign a certain document, which purported to be of an official character, which now proves to have brought more advantage in several ways to its authors than to the men. The four officers, he it noted, traveled across second class and the rest of the squadron third class. It was understood, too, that the men would receive pay during their stay in England, or until such time as they joined the contingent, but up to the present not one of them has received a cent.

The men have now fresh officers, and, needless to say, the former ones are no longer in Elliott's Horse. Major General Alderson has taken a sympathetic interest in the case and seeing that most of the men have families in the West and cannot afford to join Kitchener's army on the basis of Imperial pay, he has advised them to return to Canada and join the second contingent.

The squadron will present itself in a body at the High Commissioner's office as eighty stranded Canadian civilians with a view to having their passages paid. Officials of the C. P. R. are interesting themselves in the matter.

FIRING INTENDED AS FRIENDLY WARNING

U. S. Determined Not to Become Involved in Trouble With Turkey.

Washington, Nov. 28.—Definite details of the adventure of the cruiser Tennessee in the Gulf of Smyrna have been eagerly awaited by administration officials, who have remained confident that the affair probably would be adjusted through channels of diplomacy.

Ambassador Morgenthau has been directed to inquire of the Turkish government why land forces had fired on the Tennessee's launch as it steamed from Vourlah to Smyrna, to investigate conditions at the American consulate and the commanders of the Tennessee and her sister ship North Carolina in nearby waters had instructions to make no move that might embarrass the Washington government.

President Wilson was determined that the United States should not become involved in trouble with Turkey, and confidence was expressed that if the Turkish officers had acted without the authority of their government or the firing was unjustified by naval procedure, that the Porte would apologize.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels summed up his view of the incident by declaring he believed detailed reports would show that the firing was intended as a friendly warning to prevent the launch from entering mined waters.

"I believe that when Captain Decker's report is received it will prove that the firing was a friendly, and not an unfriendly act," said the secretary. "Reports that the waters of Smyrna harbor are mined indicate that the shots were fired to warn the vessel against the danger of mines which it might have come into contact with had it entered the harbor."

Another explanation advanced by Mr. Daniels was that the port had been officially closed, and that the approach of the vessel caused the guns of the forts to sound a warning to prevent it from trespassing.

ALIEN ALLOWED TO SUE.

Austrian in Winnipeg Gets Privilege in the Courts.

Winnipeg, Nov. 27.—Justice Galt has ruled in an action of Pescovitch, an Austrian, against the Western Canada Flour Mills Co., Ltd., that an unnaturalized foreigner has the right of action in Manitoba courts, provided he attends to his own affairs. Pescovitch claimed damages from the company, which moved for a stay of all proceedings on the grounds that the plaintiff was an alien and an enemy. The judge ruled that the case must proceed.

Electrical apparatus has been invented that welds street car rails without disturbing the pavement with current taken from the trolley wire.

The University of Maine has inaugurated a four years' course of train men to become specialists in paper manufacture.

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