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THE HIDDEN HAND

The editor of the Providence Journal disclosed the fact that the hidden hand of Germany was at work in the United States for the purpose of defeating the conscription bill then before the Senate.

At the Liberal Convention in Winnipeg an attempt was made by the delegates from the constituencies dominated by foreigners to pledge unabated confidence in, and support to, the anti-conscription leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

While the Western Liberals have succeeded in escaping the predicament of being tied to an anti-conscriptionist leader they have not succeeded in formulating any war policy which entitles them to the confidence of Win-the-War Liberals.

Of our own already depleted population we have given some 3,000 of our sons. Nearly 150 of these are buried in France; more will follow them to the grave; many of them are maimed for life, many broken in health; all of them have battled manfully for the honour of Canada and now Canada's honour has come down to party-saving, to saving Laurier and the men who threatened rebellion if they should be compelled to fight for the country that feeds them, the country that others are dying for.

THE WAR

At this initial War Session, Parliament responded in a highly patriotic manner. It not only confirmed the steps taken by the Government, but conferred upon the Governor-in-Council full power to do or authorize by Order-in-Council anything that should be deemed necessary for the peace, order, security and welfare of the Dominion, and for the successful prosecution of the war.

Another instance of the hidden hand is that chronicled in yesterday's Charlottetown Guardian regarding the dastardly attempt to blow up the residence of Lord Athelstan and to murder him and his family.

Who in the United States, save the Germans, would be sufficiently interested in our war policy to threaten the murder of those who favoured the adoption of compulsory means for replenishing our army at the front? Germans and Germans alone are behind the anti-conscription campaign in Canada.

SAVING THE PARTY

It may be possible that the efforts to keep the Liberal party together under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier may succeed. A practically solid Quebec stands behind him; practically the whole alien and foreign element in the West, stands behind him; a few political heelers in the other provinces, are ready to throw in their lot with these.

It has long been recognized that we have reached practically our limit in voluntary enlistment and that the only means by which our Canadian army can be maintained is by conscription, not an indiscriminate conscription of all men of military age and fitness but a conscription of those men who can be best spared from their present occupations.

Is this what the coming election is going to bring us? With 400,000 of our men now enduring all the hell that war means, spending sleepless days and nights in sodden trenches, lying in hospitals or in unmarked graves in a foreign land, and more than 400,000 at home in Quebec and among the aliens in the West, housed and fed and clothed in Canada, and kept at home by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the faction that has rallied to his support!

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The hand of the censor is again in evidence in the war news and the closing of all the wireless stations on this side of the Atlantic is significant, meaning probably that all the German spies are not yet out of the United States.

There has been considerable activity on the western front and the Allies have made some progress. It is worthy of note that a Berlin telegram in our yesterday morning's war news, announced the beginning of a big drive on the coast of Belgium which our official London telegrams have not mentioned.

It is most encouraging to note that the Germans, no matter how desperately they strive, are totally unable to regain ground once lost to the Allies. The Teuton high command well knows the importance of checking the Allied drive in Flanders. The British are fighting but ten miles from the coast and Ostend and Zeebrugge. Important submarine bases, are not far away.

CANADA'S EFFORT THE DOMINION IN THE GREAT WAR

Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just, And he but naked though locked up in steel, Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted.

Reviewing all that has been accomplished during the last thirty months, it is no vain national boast that the Canadian people have far exceeded the expectations laid down at the outset—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Only once in centuries is it given to the sons of men to lay down their lives on the field of battle in such a sacred cause as that for which the free nations now contend in Europe.

This is the consolation of all Canadians who, in these tragic days mourn their valiant dead. Nor should their mourning be unmingled with a sense of solemn joy. There is a religious body whose members disdain to weep when their cherished leaders pass from the earth; they clothe themselves instead in garments of gladness.

CANADA'S WAR RECORD.

This volume represents an attempt to set down roughly for the information of the Canadian people the great things this country has achieved in the most tremendous conflict in human history.

TIMELY ORGANIZATION.

It fortunately happened that early in 1914, the Government took steps looking to effective action in the event of war with a foreign power. Up to that time, this country had no inter-departmental committee charged with the elaboration of defence measures and the co-ordination of different branches of Government in case of an emergency.

WAR BREAKS OUT.

On August 2nd, it appeared that the British Government's tireless efforts to avert a European cataclysm were likely to prove unavailing. Then it was that Sir Robert Borden, confident in the patriotism of a united people, despatched a message of support to the Imperial authorities.

By August 4th, Germany had violated Belgian neutrality, and was pouring her troops southwards in an attempt to crush France by a sudden attack in overwhelming numbers. At midnight on that fateful Tuesday, in observance of her treaty obligations to Belgium and of her moral obligations to France, as well as in self-defence and in defence of the Empire and human freedom, Great Britain declared war.

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THE NAVAL SERVICE.

The Naval Service was the first Canadian Service affected by war-time conditions. The Government purchased two submarines at Seattle on the very day before hostilities began. The Naval authorities were engaged in forming crews for these boats, when Germany's invasion of Belgium caused Great Britain formally to enter the conflict.

Many wireless stations were closed down to prevent their abuse by the enemy. The stations left open were manned by a staff of censors and military or police guards. Canadian dock-yards have issued supplies to British, French, Japanese and Australian warships. The Canadian ships and their crews act under the direction of the British Admiralty, which constantly avails itself of their services.

receipt of information from Imperial and neutral sources, as to conditions in the various waters of the world and as to the precautions that should be observed in meeting these conditions. This information is sent out to the Canadian Merchant Marine. Warnings are issued regarding mine-sweeping operations and other war perils in Canadian waters.

RAISING AN ARMY

We turn to the Militia Department. A great part of the Militia was at once called out. Guards were placed at many bridges, buildings, outposts and strategic points. Adequate defences were provided on both ocean coasts. Garrisons had to be sent to Bermuda and St. Lucia, and many other minor war duties performed.

Early in October, the First Contingent left for England in thirty-one transports, "the greatest armada that ever crossed the seas." Since that initial effort, the soldiers of Canada have won a world's praise, enlistments have exceeded 400,000, and the Canadian military organization in Europe has expanded accordingly.

Canadian hospitals fully equipped with Canadian doctors, dentists and nurses, have been extended to Great Britain, France and Greece. The manufacture of munitions has become the chief Canadian industry. Good management of the National finances has overcome business depression, and brought a marked degree of prosperity throughout Canada.

SIZE OF ARMY.

Up to August, 1914, the Canadian Militia organization with Headquarters at Ottawa, was designed to deal with a force of 3,000 permanent troops and train about 50,000 militiamen for 12 or 15 days per annum under peace conditions.

Subscriptions to Canadian Patriotic Fund. List No. 106. Previously acknowledged in "Patriot" \$45,460.34. John F. McDonald, City, \$5; Malcolm Richardson, Toronto, \$25.

Balance of Rustico Poll, \$20.60, collected by George LeClair, as follows: Thos. Lohron, \$1; Mose Dohron, \$1; Wm. D. Doucette, \$1; Alphonse Doucette, \$1; Alphonse Doucette, \$3; Damas Peters, \$1; Lemuel Gallant, \$1; Boniface Buote, \$1; Prosper LeClair, \$5; Eusebe Buote, \$1; Joseph J. Gallant, \$1; Arasme Martin, \$1; T. L. McNeill, \$2; August Buote, \$5; Amede Dohron, \$5; Hugh McLure, \$2; Mrs. Capt. J. Doucette, \$5; Gilbert Peters, \$1; Cleophas LeClair, \$1; Felix Buote, \$1.

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